ALBERTA JUSTICE

ANNUAL REPORT

2001-2002

Alberta
JUSTICE

Alberta Justice Communications
3rd floor, Bowker Building
9833 - 109 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2E8

Tel: 780/427-8530
Fax: 780/422-7363
web site: www.gov.ab.ca/just/
Alberta Connects:
www.albertaconnects.gov.ab.ca/

For toll-free access to Alberta government offices, dial 310-0000 and then enter the ten digit number or press 0 and hold for RITE operator assistance.

ISBN 07785-0375-5
September 2002

Table of Contents

103-01833/

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Preface 2

Accountability Statement 3

Mission and Vision 4

A Message from the Minister 5

Management's Responsibility for Reporting 6

Ministry Overview 7

- Boards, Agencies and Committees 8
- Department of Justice 10
- Operational Overview 13
- Highlights 15
- Analysis of Key Activities 17

Results Analysis 21

- A Message from the Deputy Minister 21
- Core Businesses 22
- Report of the Auditor General 23
- Goals and Measures 24
- Strategic Objectives and Accomplishments 31
- Forward-looking Information 40

Methodology 43

Financial Statements 45

- Ministry of Justice Financial Statements 47

Other Financial Information 75

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Information in Ministry Annual Reports 85

Preface

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

The Public Accounts of Alberta are prepared in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and the *Government Accountability Act*. The public accounts consist of the annual report of the Government of Alberta and the annual reports of each of the 24 ministries.

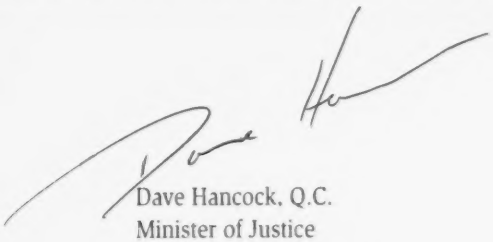
The annual report of the Government of Alberta released June 2002 contains the Minister of Finance's accountability statement, the consolidated financial statements of the province and a comparison of the actual performance results to desired results set out in the government's business plan, including the *Measuring Up* report.

This annual report of the Ministry of Justice contains the minister's accountability statement, the audited financial statements of the ministry and a comparison of actual performance results to desired results set out in the ministry business plan. This ministry annual report also includes other financial information as required by the *Financial Administration Act* and *Government Accountability Act*, either as separate reports or as a part of the financial statements, to the extent that the ministry has anything to report.

Accountability Statement

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

The ministry's annual report for the year ended March 31, 2002, was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Government Accountability Act* and the government's accounting policies. All of the government's policy decisions as at September 23, 2002, with material economic or fiscal implications of which I am aware, have been considered in the preparation of this report.



Dave Hancock, Q.C.
Minister of Justice
and Attorney General

Mission and Vision

Our mission is to serve Albertans by promoting safe communities, by ensuring access to the courts and other methods of dispute resolution, by providing legal and related strategic services to the Government of Alberta, and by communicating with Albertans about the administration of justice.

Our vision is a democratic and prosperous Alberta based on respect for the law, where all Albertans are safe in their homes and communities and have confidence in the justice system, and where disputes are resolved fairly and effectively.

A Message from the Minister

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

I am pleased to present the ministry's annual report for 2001/02.

The provincial election in March 2001 led to many changes across government, including the creation of two separate ministries from the former Department of Justice — Alberta Justice and Attorney General, and Alberta Solicitor General. In this split, Correctional Services and Public Security became part of Solicitor General. This allowed the new Department of Justice to focus more strongly on improving access to the justice system and providing legal services to vulnerable Albertans.

Alberta Justice's mission clearly states our number one goal: serving Albertans by promoting safe communities. We do this, in part, by ensuring access to the courts and other methods of dispute resolution and by communicating with Albertans about the administration of justice.

We have spent this past year working hard to make our mission a reality. In particular, we have focused on improving our court system for Albertans through initiatives designed to increase the efficiency of the courts and decrease the stress of people using them. We also began a renewal project within our prosecution service that is paying huge dividends in terms of improved morale, greater effectiveness and efficiency, and ability to attract and retain the best and brightest of prosecutors.

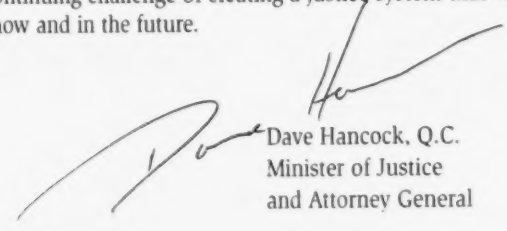
One of our focuses during 2001/02 was family court, as we released the report and recommendations of the Unified Family Court Task Force. The task force recommended a unified family court for Alberta, and we are currently involved in consultations with both the judiciary and the federal Minister of Justice regarding the feasibility of various options. As part of the Legal Aid agreement reached last year, this fiscal year saw the opening of new Family Law Legal Aid offices in Edmonton and Calgary. We also started an intake and caseflow pilot project in the Family Division of the Provincial Court aimed at helping unrepresented parties resolve their disputes prior to attending court, and accompanying them through the court process should matters not be resolved.

In November 2001, we hosted the consultation on court-annexed mediation in civil cases which followed the *Negotiating the Future* conference. This included a visioning session to create possible models for future civil mediation programs.

We continue to be involved in the Calgary Domestic Violence Court pilot project, where victims and perpetrators receive focused attention. The project dedicates court, judicial, prosecutorial, enforcement and treatment resources to the issue of family violence. Alberta Justice also continued to provide assistance to victims of all types of crime through Crown Prosecutor Public Assistance Units.

In addition to these initiatives, we launched our Family Law Reform consultation in January 2002. The consultation is part of a larger project to consolidate and amend Alberta family law to make it more accessible and relevant to Albertans. Changes to family law resulting from this project will be a focus in the upcoming year. We will also keep safe communities as our top priority and will work to ensure that Alberta's justice system is responsive to the needs of victims, offenders and those involved in civil or family disputes.

We look forward to the continuing challenge of creating a justice system that will meet the needs of Albertans both now and in the future.



Dave Hancock, Q.C.
Minister of Justice
and Attorney General

Management's Responsibility for Reporting

The executives of the individual entities within the ministry have the primary responsibility and accountability for the respective entities. Collectively, the executives ensure the ministry complies with all relevant legislation, regulations and policies.

Ministry business plans, annual reports, performance results and the supporting management information are integral to the government's fiscal and business plans, annual report, quarterly reports and other financial and performance reporting.

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the financial statements and performance results for the ministry rests with the Minister of Justice. Under the direction of the minister I oversee the preparation of the ministry's annual report, including financial statements and performance results. The financial statements and the performance results, of necessity, include amounts that are based on estimates and judgments. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the government's stated accounting policies.

As deputy minister, in addition to program responsibilities, I establish and maintain the ministry's financial administration and reporting functions. The ministry maintains systems of financial management and internal control, which give consideration to costs, benefits, and risks that are designed to:

- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized, executed in accordance with prescribed legislation and regulations, and properly recorded so as to maintain accountability of public money,
- provide information to manage and report on performance,
- safeguard the assets and properties of the province under ministry administration,
- provide Executive Council, Treasury Board, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Justice any information needed to fulfil their responsibilities, and
- facilitate preparation of ministry business plans and annual reports required under the *Government Accountability Act*.

In fulfilling my responsibilities for the ministry, I have relied, as necessary, on the executive of the individual entities within the ministry.

Terrence J. Matchett
Deputy Minister of Justice
and Deputy Attorney General
Ministry of Justice

September 23, 2002

MINISTRY OVERVIEW

Minister of Justice and Attorney General

- Alberta Review Board
- Fatality Review Board
- Judicial Council
- Rules of Court Committee
- Provincial Court Nominating Committee
- Notaries Public Review Committee

Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General

- **Communications**
- **Court Services**
  - Calgary Court Operations
  - Edmonton Court Operations
  - Regional Court Operations
  - Program Support
- **Criminal Justice**
  - Appeals
  - General Prosecutions
  - Program Support
  - Special Prosecutions
- **Human Resource Services**
  - Staffing
  - Classification
  - Employee Relations
  - Staff Training and Development
  - Employee Programs
- **Legal Services**
  - Civil Law
  - Legislative Counsel
  - Medical Examiner
  - Public Trustee
- **Maintenance Enforcement**
  - Client Services
  - Collections
  - Program Support
- **Strategic Services**
  - Strategic Management Services
  - Financial Services
  - Strategic Business Services

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Boards, Agencies and Committees

Judicial Council

The Judicial Council screens individuals to determine if they are qualified for appointment to the Provincial Court of Alberta. The council is granted jurisdiction to deal with complaints against masters, provincial court judges and justices of the peace. The Minister of Justice appoints two members of this council. The remaining four members are designated under the *Judicature Act*.

The Honourable E. Walter - Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta
Telephone: (780) 427-6330; Fax: (780) 427-2077

Provincial Court Nominating Committee

The Provincial Court Nominating Committee provides recommendations to the Minister of Justice on the appointment of individuals to the Provincial Court of Alberta. The committee has eight members, each appointed by the Minister of Justice.

Vacant - Chair
Telephone: (780) 422-9625; Fax: (780) 422-6613

Alberta Review Board

The Alberta Review Board makes or reviews dispositions concerning any accused person for whom a verdict of "not criminally responsible because of mental disorder" or "unfit to stand trial" is rendered, according to the provisions of the *Criminal Code* of Canada. The board also has the responsibility for determining whether a person should be subject to a detention order or conditional discharge or be granted an absolute discharge. The board's nine members are appointed by the lieutenant governor in council.

The Honourable Judge M. Stevens-Guille - Chair
Telephone: (780) 422-5994; Fax: (780) 427-1762

Fatality Review Board

The Fatality Review Board is responsible for reviewing certain deaths investigated by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and recommending to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General whether a public fatality inquiry should be held. The board is appointed by the lieutenant governor in council and is composed of a lawyer, a physician and a layperson. The chief medical examiner is also a member of the board, but cannot vote on any matter before it. Cases reviewed by the board generally include accidental deaths (where recommendations could be made at a public fatality inquiry for the prevention of similar deaths in the future), cases where the cause and manner of death remain undetermined after a complete investigation, and deaths of individuals who are in police custody, in prison, certified under the *Mental Health Act*, or under the Director of Child Welfare's guardianship or in the director's custody.

Diane Colley-Urquhart - Chair
Telephone: (403) 297-8123; Fax: (403) 297-3429

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Notaries Public Review Committee

The Notaries Public Review Committee advises the Minister of Justice on appointments of lay notaries public. The committee consists of a member of the Law Society of Alberta, a member of the business community and a member of the ministry, who is the secretary. All are appointed by ministerial order under the *Government Organization Act*. The committee reviews applications for appointment and then provides recommendations to the Minister of Justice.

I. Kay, Q.C. - Chair
Telephone: (780) 427-5069; Fax: (780) 427-6821

Rules of Court Committee

The Rules of Court Committee makes recommendations to the Minister of Justice on amendments to the Rules of Court made under the *Court of Appeal Act*, the *Court of Queen's Bench Act* or any other act. The committee consists of the chief justice of Alberta or a justice of the Court of Appeal designated by the chief justice, the chief justice of the Court of Queen's Bench or a justice of the Court of Queen's Bench designated by the chief justice of that court, the chief judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta or a judge of the provincial court designated by the chief judge. Two members are also appointed by the Law Society of Alberta and one member by the Minister of Justice.

The Honourable Mr. Justice J. Côté - Chair
Geoff Ho, Q.C. - Secretary
Telephone: (780) 427-3557; Fax: (780) 422-6613

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Department of Justice

Communications Division

As assigned from the Public Affairs Bureau, the Communications Division provides advice to the department and the minister on strategic communications, issues management and public relations. The Communications Division also leads public legal education initiatives on behalf of the department.

B. Johnson - Director
Telephone: (780) 427-8530; Fax: (780) 422-7363
E-mail: bart.johnson@gov.ab.ca

Court Services Division

Court Services provides administrative, planning and technical support to Alberta's three courts: the Court of Appeal of Alberta (in two locations), the Court of Queen's Bench (in 13 locations) and the Provincial Court of Alberta (in 75 locations). Staff are located in 23 centres and the courts circuit to an additional 52 locations.

The three courts maintain all court records and accept a wide variety of documents for filing from the public, lawyers, law enforcement agencies and other government departments. Employees record all court proceedings, swear in or affirm witnesses and interpreters, mark and ensure the safekeeping of exhibits, process fines and other payments into court, perform searches, and provide general assistance to lawyers and the public.

Court Services also operates law libraries to provide legal information to judges, Crown prosecutors, defence counsel and the public.

R. Wacowich, Q.C. - Assistant Deputy Minister
Telephone: (780) 427-9620; Fax: (780) 422-9639
E-mail: rod.wacowich@gov.ab.ca

Criminal Justice Division

Criminal Justice Division prosecutes all offences under the *Criminal Code* of Canada, the *Young Offenders Act* and the Provincial Statutes in all the courts of the province and the Supreme Court of Canada.

The division is divided into three branches. Appeals, Criminal Law Policy and Planning Branch is responsible for criminal appeals to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and for leading policy and planning initiatives for the division. Special Prosecutions Branch is responsible for providing specialized prosecutorial services in areas such as organized crime, significant commercial or corporate crime or crimes committed against government. General Prosecutions Branch is responsible for all cases apart from those assigned to the other two branches.

K. Tjosvold, Q.C. - Assistant Deputy Minister
Telephone: (780) 427-5046; Fax: (780) 422-9639
E-mail: ken.tjosvold@gov.ab.ca

Human Resource Services Division

Human Resource Services provides strategic direction and consultation in the areas of employee/labour relations, staffing, organizational design and change, job evaluation, performance planning, training and development, leadership capacity and wellness.

The division supports the achievement of cross-government and Corporate Human Resource plans and strategies.

S. Perras - Executive Director
Telephone: (780) 427-9617; Fax: (780) 422-9639
E-mail: shirley.perras@gov.ab.ca

Legal Services Division

The Legal Services Division is responsible for all civil legal services.

Civil Law provides legal and related strategic services to all government ministries and represents them in matters before the courts and tribunals. Its Constitutional and Aboriginal Law Branch provides specialized advice to the government concerning constitutional and aboriginal matters. The Legal Research and Analysis Branch provides advice on legislative policy.

The Legislative Counsel office is responsible for drafting government bills, regulations and Orders in Council. This office also works with the Queen's Printer to make the laws of Alberta available to the public.

The Medical Examiner's Office investigates all unexplained natural deaths and unnatural deaths in Alberta under authority of the *Fatality Inquiries Act*. The findings are used to assist in resolving civil and criminal law matters that often arise after a death. The Fatality Review Board reviews cases investigated by the Medical Examiner's Office and recommends to the Minister of Justice in which cases a public fatality inquiry should be held. These inquiries are held before a Provincial Court judge.

The Public Trustee, acting under the *Public Trustee Act*, protects the financial interests of vulnerable Albertans by administering the estates of dependent adults, decedents and minors.

P. Hartman - Assistant Deputy Minister
Telephone: (780) 427-0912; Fax: (780) 422-9639
E-mail: peggy.hartman@gov.ab.ca

G. Dowling - Chief Medical Examiner
Telephone: (780) 427-4987; Fax: (780) 422-1265
E-mail: graeme.dowling@gov.ab.ca

J. Klinck - Public Trustee
Telephone: (780) 422-3141; Fax: (780) 422-9136
E-mail: jack.klinck@gov.ab.ca

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Maintenance Enforcement Program

The Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) ensures that individuals meet their obligations to pay spousal and child support under the terms of their court orders and certain agreements. Once an order or agreement has been registered with MEP, maintenance payments that the debtor (payor) would normally remit directly to the creditor (recipient) are sent to MEP. MEP then forwards the payment to the creditor once the funds have cleared through a trust account.

In cases of default, or non-payment by the debtor, MEP has the legislative authority to take steps to enforce the support owed. These enforcement tools include registrations at Land Titles and the Personal Property Registry; wage, non-wage and federal garnishees; federal licence (passport) denials; and motor vehicle restrictions and driver's licence cancellations. MEP also has access to a variety of databases to assist in locating a debtor or a debtor's assets or income.

There are over 90,000 creditors and debtors and over 60,000 children registered with MEP.

Manuel da Costa - Director
Telephone: (780) 401-7500; Fax: (780) 401-7575
E-mail: manuel.dacosta@gov.ab.ca

Strategic Services Division

The Strategic Services Division provides strategic information, tools and processes to help the department achieve its goals and enhance its effectiveness. The division provides professional services and strategic advice on matters related to cross-government initiatives, business planning and performance measurement, financial administration, information technology/information management strategy and administrative services.

D. Mercer - Assistant Deputy Minister
Telephone: (780) 427-3301; Fax: (780) 422-9639
E-mail: dan.mercer@gov.ab.ca

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Operational Overview

Alberta Justice had four core business functions in 2001/02:

Prosecutions: prosecute criminal and other offences, giving priority to the prosecution of serious and violent crime.

Courts: provide Albertans access to the courts and other dispute resolution processes.

Legal services to government: provide excellent corporate advice and legal services to government ministries.

Legal services for vulnerable Albertans: provide support and protection to some of Alberta's most vulnerable citizens, such as families who depend on court-ordered maintenance payments, individuals unable to protect their financial interests and individuals who cannot afford legal counsel.

Safe communities are a shared responsibility between other government departments, community groups and Albertans, and we have been working to develop and enhance the partnerships required to achieve results in each of these core business functions. In addition, we have been focusing on education and communication strategies to improve public knowledge and understanding about the justice system.

Key Factors Influencing Performance

Environmental factors include: population demographics, economic and social trends, crime rates, federal laws and policies, government resources, technology and globalization, and public opinion. These factors have imposed pressures on the administration of justice in a variety of ways.

Demographically and socially, we have seen that the number of common-law and single-parent families has increased significantly since the early 1990s. More children are experiencing parental separation and growing up in non-traditional families. These trends will continue to contribute to an increase in the number of people accessing family courts, mediation services and parenting after separation courses.

Canada's Aboriginal population is growing twice as fast as the country's total population and it is proportionally younger. In Alberta, Aboriginal people represent approximately five per cent of the total population and 38 per cent of the prison population. This presents a challenge in terms of delivering services to Aboriginal people that will support community development and reduce the number of Aboriginal people coming into conflict with the law.

Canada also has an aging population with an increasing proportion of seniors who have a heightened susceptibility to and fear of crime. Although Alberta's crime rates remain the lowest in western Canada, there is more widespread and immediate access to crime event information through the media, which in turn increases the fear of crime. In addition, increasingly complex criminal and civil cases require greater time and resources to resolve. Increasing public confidence in the justice system in the wake of these factors is an ongoing challenge.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

In terms of economic trends, Alberta has had a strong and vibrant economy over the past five years, attracting new residents from all over the world. Our cosmopolitan society is made up of many cultures and languages, so it is important that the justice system be available, understandable and sensitive to cultural diversity.

In terms of laws and policies, the provincial Legislature is responsible for the administration of justice, while the federal Parliament is mainly responsible for criminal law. Federal legislation, as well as judicial decisions, can impose new obligations on the ministry that must be managed. In addition, the courts are constitutionally independent entities and both the federal and provincial governments have a responsibility to provide the necessary resources for their effective administration. Ongoing cooperation between the provincial and federal governments is vital to providing Albertans with a safe and secure province.

Additionally, technology has facilitated the rapid movement of people, capital and information. While this has resulted in a global economy, it has also produced crime that is global in scope. The challenge for the ministry will be to partner with national and international enforcement agencies to produce a credible response to complex global economic and organized crime and terrorism. New technology also creates opportunities for innovative approaches to increase accessibility and improve the efficiency of the justice system in Alberta.

Public opinion is another key factor influencing performance. The ministry has closely monitored the changing views of Albertans by conducting a public opinion survey every year since 1995. The 30-minute telephone survey gathers information from a representative sample of Albertans about their views of the administration of justice in Alberta, their perception of safety, and their knowledge of the justice system. In 2001/02, the survey results showed that:

- 72 per cent of Albertans have confidence in how well crimes are being prosecuted in Alberta.
- 77 per cent have confidence in the courts and legal system (compared to 68 per cent in 2000/01).
- 77 per cent of Albertans are satisfied that the criminal justice system has made the right decisions about who is guilty and who is innocent (compared to 68 per cent in 2000/01).
- 99 per cent of Albertans felt safe in their homes (compared to 96 per cent in 2000/01).

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

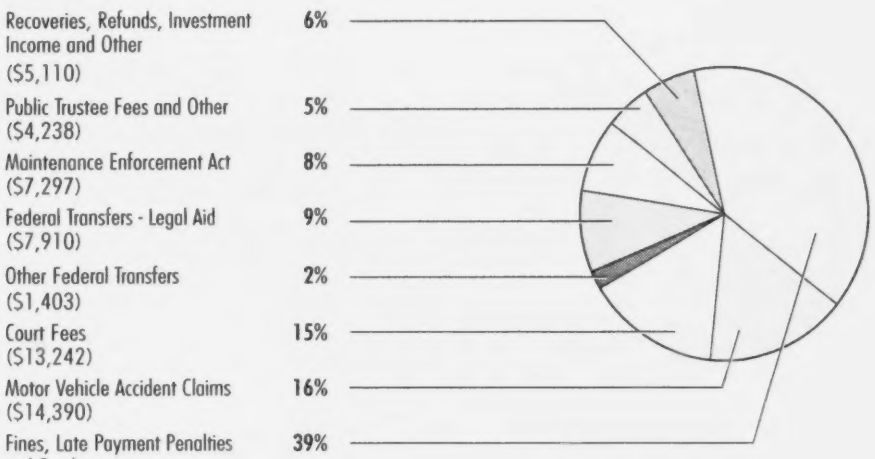
Highlights - Performance at a Glance

Goal	Measure	Target	Result
Promote safe communities in Alberta.	Due to the division of the former Ministry of Justice into the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Ministry of Solicitor General in 2001, performance measures for this goal were under development in 2001/02. Performance measures have been developed for the 2002-05 Alberta Justice Business Plan and will be reported next year. For information on key measures related to perception of safety, satisfaction with policing, and crime rate, please refer to the 2001/02 Annual Report of Alberta Solicitor General.		
Ensure victims have a more meaningful role in the criminal justice system.	Due to the division of the former Ministry of Justice into the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Ministry of Solicitor General in 2001, performance measures for this goal were under development in 2001/02. Performance measures have been developed for the 2002-05 Alberta Justice Business Plan and will be reported next year. For information on key measures related to victim services and victimization rate, please refer to the 2001/02 Annual Report of Alberta Solicitor General.		
Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need.	The amount collected on Maintenance Enforcement Program files (pg 25)	$3,025	In 2001/02, an average of $3,106 per file was collected.
	Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office (pg 26)	85%	In 2001/02, the client satisfaction rate was 91%.
	Number of eligible Albertans receiving legal aid services (pg 26)	105,968	In 2001/02, 101,577 Albertans received legal aid services.
Improve access to civil and criminal justice.	Median elapsed time from first to last appearance (pg 28)	Canadian median (87 days)	The median elapsed time from first to last appearance was 72 days. *Note: The latest data available is for 2000/01.*
Provide effective legal services to the Government of Alberta.	Client satisfaction with legal services (pg 29)	95%	81% of all clients were "more than satisfied" to "very satisfied." (The 81% result is below the 2001/02 target mainly due to methodological changes made to the survey in 2001/02.)

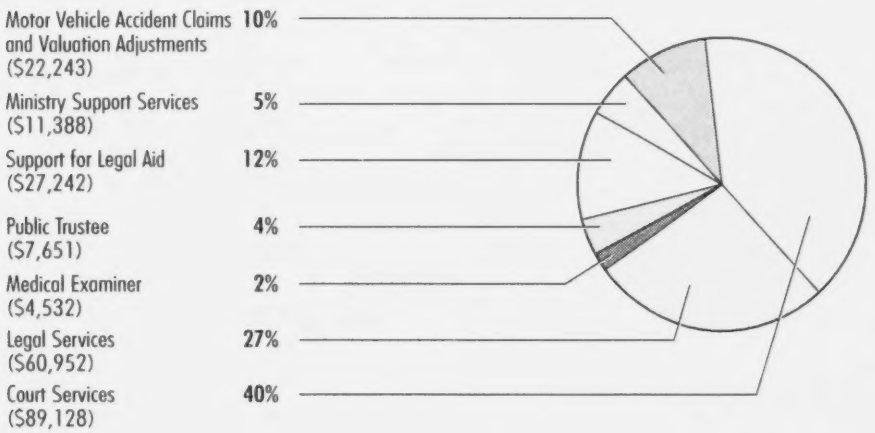
ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Highlights - Financial

Revenue by Source (percentage)
($87,539*)


Recoveries, Refunds, Investment Income and Other ($5,110) 6%
Public Trustee Fees and Other ($4,238) 5%
Maintenance Enforcement Act ($7,297) 8%
Federal Transfers - Legal Aid ($7,910) 9%
Other Federal Transfers ($1,403) 2%
Court Fees ($13,242) 15%
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims ($14,390) 16%
Fines, Late Payment Penalties and Surcharges ($33,949) 39%

Expenses by Program (percentage)
($223,136*)


Motor Vehicle Accident Claims and Valuation Adjustments ($22,243) 10%
Ministry Support Services ($11,388) 5%
Support for Legal Aid ($27,242) 12%
Public Trustee ($7,651) 4%
Medical Examiner ($4,532) 2%
Legal Services ($60,952) 27%
Court Services ($89,128) 40%

*Dollar amounts are shown in thousands

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Analysis of Key Activities

Alberta Justice's efforts for 2001/02 focused on building a justice system that is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of all Albertans. Access to justice and continued implementation of the recommendations from the 1999 Alberta Summit on Justice remained high priorities during this process.

Public consultations

Unified Family Court Task Force

- The task force was established in March 2000 to recommend how access to the courts can be improved for family law litigants.
- The task force consulted widely with stakeholders and Albertans involved in the family law system. It also reviewed unified family courts in six provinces and held town hall meetings and forums with lawyers from across the province.
- The final report was publicly released in May 2001, and recommended a unified family court for Alberta.
- Further feedback from the public was invited after the release of the report's recommendations.

Consultation on court-annexed mediation in civil cases

- Alberta Justice's consultation on court-annexed mediation in civil cases continues the discussions from the *Negotiating the Future* mediation conference held in November 2001.
- The ultimate goal is to develop a "made-in-Alberta" court-annexed civil mediation program.
- The consultation is a three-step process that started with a visioning session following the November 2001 conference to create possible models for future civil mediation programs.
- The second phase, completed in February 2002, consisted of facilitated discussion groups held in Calgary and Edmonton.
- In the third step, individuals selected from the facilitated discussion groups will form a working committee to make recommendations to the minister about court-annexed mediation in civil cases.

Family Law Reform

- The Family Law Reform consultation was launched in January 2002.
- As part of a larger family law reform project, Albertans were asked to provide input on issues including spousal support, child access and maintenance, and the rights and obligations of people involved in personal relationships.
- The project included several round table discussions and focus groups with special interest groups such as those representing single parents, grandparents, youth, Aboriginals, social service providers and the legal community. It also included written submissions from individuals and the legal community, as well as a public opinion poll.
- The deadline for the consultation was March 1, 2002.

Program initiatives

New Family Law Legal Aid offices

- The Legal Aid Society opened new Family Law Legal Aid offices in Edmonton in July 2001 and in Calgary in October 2001.
- These two offices provide family law services to Albertans who qualify for legal aid assistance in areas including divorce, child welfare and custody disputes. Mediation and other alternative dispute resolution processes are also used.
- The offices are a four-year pilot project that will examine the quality and cost-effectiveness of using Legal Aid staff lawyers to provide family law legal services.

First Nations Cultural Camp

- Nineteen Crown prosecutors from across the province took part in a First Nations Cultural Camp in September 2001.
- The goal of the camp was to increase the prosecutors' knowledge and understanding of First Nations and Aboriginal culture through participation in traditional activities and ceremonies.
- Topics addressed included an historical overview, Aboriginal spirituality, the role of Elders, the role of women, current issues facing Aboriginal communities and cultural skills development.

Intake and Caseflow Pilot Project

- A pilot project for all unrepresented applicants in the Family Division of the Provincial Court (except in Child Welfare matters) was launched in October 2001.
- Under the pilot, unrepresented parties are required to meet with intake counsellors and attend conferences before a caseflow coordinator to determine if matters can be resolved.
- These staff members explore options with the parties, facilitate resolutions and make referrals. Parties also receive information on mediation, judicial dispute resolution and relevant courses to assist in resolving matters without going to court.
- If a matter cannot be resolved, staff members ensure documents are in order, explain the court process and accompany parties through the court process.

Renewal of Alberta's prosecution service

- In May 2001, a joint committee of officials from Justice and other government departments, members of the Crown Attorneys Association and headed by an independent consultant, was struck to address Crown prosecutor salaries and workloads, and to respond to high staff turnover.
- Based on the committee's recommendations, the government announced a new compensation package for legal officers in October 2001 to make Alberta prosecutor salaries competitive with those in other jurisdictions and to create a new top-level category for select prosecutors who handle exceptionally serious and complex cases on a regular basis. The package also included funding to add 15 prosecutors and 10 support staff positions.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

- Increasing the number of prosecutor positions is expected to reduce the average caseload, which had risen to the highest in Canada. The new positions also enabled most Alberta Crown offices to participate in Early Case Resolution.
- Initial reports on the success of the renewal project have been very positive. The new compensation structure and additional prosecutor positions have helped create a noticeable improvement in prosecution staff morale, particularly in the Edmonton and Calgary Crown offices.

First Appearance Centre

- The Edmonton First Appearance Centre, a joint project of Alberta Justice and the Edmonton Police Service, was launched in 2001.
- The centre is designed to deal with non-criminal traffic offences outside of court.
- People who appear at the Edmonton courthouse may either set a trial date or speak to a prosecutor at the First Appearance Centre. The prosecutor can then provide information about the nature of the fine and the legal options available if they go to court. Where appropriate, the prosecutor works to resolve the matter with the accused before he or she goes to court.
- The centre is based on a similar First Appearance Centre in Calgary that opened in 1999. Similar services were also introduced in the St. Albert, Sherwood Park and Stony Plain courthouses.

Mediation conference

- The *Negotiating the Future* conference, held in November 2001, brought together experts from across Canada and the United States, members of the judiciary, the legal community and mediators.
- Delegates discussed the challenges and successes of civil mediation programs over the three-day conference.

Law Society Libraries web site

- A web site that allows users to search the catalogues of the Law Society Libraries and the Legal Reference Libraries from home was launched in December 2001.
- The site, located at *www.lawlibraries.ab.ca*, allows researchers to find and list the resources they need before they go to the library.
- Users can also ask reference questions electronically and link to a multitude of other legal resources and information, including judgments and legislation from across Canada and around the world.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

Legislative and policy changes

Provincial Court Amendment Act

- This Act came into force in November 2001. Under the Act, judges of retirement age (70) may be eligible for one-year appointments up to age 75, as requested by the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court.

Victims Restitution and Compensation Payment Act

- This Act was passed in November 2001. The Act allows civil courts to order that illegally obtained property and profits of illegal activities be returned to their rightful owners.
- It also allows civil courts to order that assets owned by a convicted offender be transferred to the victim up to the value of a restitution order.
- In cases where no victim can be found, or where the offence committed has no identifiable victim (such as drug trafficking and gaming offences), proceeds and property may be paid to programs that support victims of the type of crime that has been committed, or to the Alberta Victims of Crime Fund.
- The Act has not yet been proclaimed.

Revised Statutes of Alberta

- The Revised Statutes of Alberta came into force on January 1, 2002. It consolidated nearly 400 Alberta acts passed prior to December 31, 2000.
- The RSA 2000 is the result of a three-year project to renumber most acts, correct outdated references and use gender-neutral terminology whenever possible.

Trustee Amendment Act

- This Act came into force in February 2002. The Act legislates the "prudent investor rule," under which a trustee must make investment decisions based on obtaining reasonable returns, while avoiding undue risk.

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Message from the Deputy Minister

During the first full year of the new Ministry of Justice, we faced and met the challenges that come with government reorganization, while maintaining our commitment to respond to the recommendations set out by the delegates of the 1999 Alberta Summit on Justice.

Once again, the Summit formed the base of our business planning process, and using it as our guide, we put forward several successful initiatives aimed at improving the justice system for Albertans. Responding directly to theme three of the Summit's Final Report, Increase Sensitivity and Cultural Awareness, 19 of our Crown prosecutors from across the province took part in a First Nations Cultural Camp in September 2001. The goal of the camp was to increase the prosecutors' knowledge and understanding of First Nations and Aboriginal culture through participation in traditional activities and ceremonies. The camp was so successful, a second is planned for next fiscal year.

We also worked to improve public knowledge of our justice system by developing a public legal education strategy. This strategy proposes a variety of initiatives to increase Albertans' knowledge and understanding of the justice system. Development began on a teacher resource manual for Grade 10 social studies students as a key part of this strategy.

Improved access to the justice system also remained a top priority, and the Edmonton First Appearance Centre helped to achieve this. The centre is based on a similar centre in Calgary that opened in 1999. It is designed to deal with non-criminal traffic offences outside of court by allowing people to speak to a prosecutor who can provide information about the nature of the fine and the legal options available to them if they go to court. Where appropriate, prosecutors will work with the accused to resolve the matter before he or she goes to court. Alternative forms of dispute resolution such as mediation and judicial dispute resolution were also of key importance in helping people resolve their disputes outside the courtroom.

Another major initiative for Alberta Justice in the 2001/02 fiscal year was the completion of the Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 (RSA 2000). This was a three-year project in cooperation with the Queen's Printer that consolidated nearly 400 Alberta acts passed prior to December 31, 2000. Most acts were renumbered, references were updated and gender-neutral language was used wherever possible.

Alberta Justice has accomplished much this past year. With the guidance of the Justice Summit recommendations, we will continue to build an effective justice system for Albertans in the future.

Terrence J. Matchett
Deputy Minister of Justice
and Deputy Attorney General
Ministry of Justice

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Core Businesses

EXPENSE BY CORE BUSINESS

(thousands of dollars)

EXPENSE	2001-02 Budget	2001-02 Actual	2000-01 Actual
Core Business			
Prosecutions	29,111	32,269	28,393
Courts	89,262	93,019	108,506
Legal services to government	20,233	21,070	17,299
Legal services for vulnerable Albertans	81,683	76,778	68,717
MINISTRY EXPENSE	**220,289**	**223,136**	**222,915**

Prosecutions: prosecute criminal and other offences, giving priority to the prosecution of serious and violent crime.

Courts: provide Albertans access to the courts and other dispute resolution processes.

Legal services to government: provide excellent corporate advice and legal services to government ministries.

Legal services for vulnerable Albertans: provide support and protection to some of Alberta's most vulnerable citizens, such as families who depend on court-ordered maintenance payments, individuals unable to protect their financial interests and individuals who cannot afford legal counsel.

AUDITOR GENERAL
Alberta

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE RESULTS OF APPLYING SPECIFIED AUDITING PROCEDURES TO PERFORMANCE MEASURES

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I have performed the following procedures in connection with the Ministry of Justice's performance measures included in the *2001-2002 Annual Report of the Ministry of Justice* as presented on pages 24 to 30.

1. Information obtained from an independent source was agreed with the information supplied by the stated source. Information provided internally was agreed to the reports from the systems used to develop the information.

2. The calculations which converted source information into reported measures were tested.

3. The appropriateness of the description of each measure's methodology was assessed.

As a result of applying the above procedures, I found no exceptions. However, these procedures do not constitute an audit, and therefore I express no opinion on the performance measures included in the *2001-2002 Annual Report of the Ministry of Justice*.

CA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
August 2, 2002

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Goals and Measures

Alberta Justice is committed to fulfilling our vision and mission where safe communities and confidence in, and access to, the justice system are key priorities. Our mandate is set out in the 2001-04 business plan in five goals.

GOAL 1:

Promote safe communities in Alberta

Albertans have told us that they want peaceful communities in which they can live, work and raise families in safety and security without fear of crime or victimization. While each goal is important, virtually everything Justice does is tested against this goal.

Due to the division of the former Ministry of Justice into the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Ministry of Solicitor General in 2001, performance measures for this goal were under development in 2001/02. Performance measures have been developed for the 2002-05 Alberta Justice Business Plan and will be reported next year.

For information on 2001/02 key measures related to public perception of safety, satisfaction with policing, and crime rate, please refer to the 2001/02 Annual Report of Alberta Solicitor General.

GOAL 2:

Ensure victims have a more meaningful role in the criminal justice system

Recognizing the needs of the victim in the criminal justice system helps restore the balance of society in a humane and fair way, and is an important goal of our justice system. Helping victims achieve closure is an essential part of restoring their feeling of safety in the community. Alberta Justice is committed to providing effective services to victims of crime and expanding the role of the victim in the criminal justice system.

Due to the division of the former Ministry of Justice into the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Ministry of Solicitor General in 2001, performance measures for this goal were under development in 2001/02. Performance measures have been developed for the 2002-05 Alberta Justice Business Plan and will be reported next year.

For information on 2001/02 key measures related to victim services and victimization rate, please refer to the 2001/02 Annual Report of Alberta Solicitor General.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

GOAL 3:

Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need

Albertans require access to a broad range of justice services including courts, prosecutorial services and appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms. In addition, services such as maintenance enforcement, estate and trust administration services, victim assistance and legal aid are an important part of preserving a safe society for Albertans where justice prevails.

Key measures for Goal 3

Key measure: The amount collected on Maintenance Enforcement Program files

The primary objective of the Alberta Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) is to collect court-ordered maintenance for creditors. The amount collected per file is a measure of the ministry's success in assisting Albertans in need, especially children. The program is authorized by the Alberta *Maintenance Enforcement Act* to collect child and spousal maintenance granted by the courts. MEP can also enforce certain types of maintenance agreements.

The target for collections per file in 2001/02 was $3,025. This amount was exceeded in 2001/02, with an average of $3,106 per file collected. This result is $81 per file over the target.

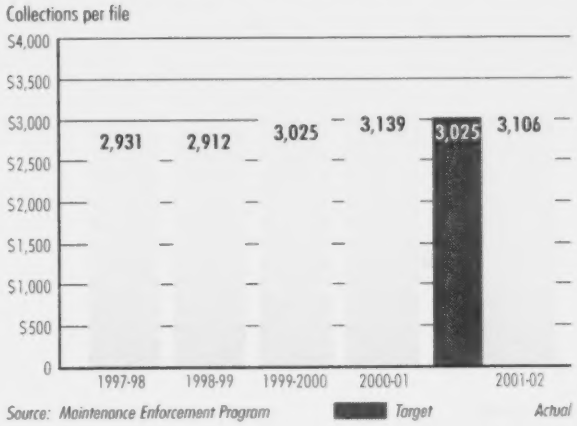
Due to factors outside MEP's control, not all maintenance orders can be collected. The following factors have a negative impact on the amount collected per file:

- Inability to locate the debtor.
- Inability to locate the debtor's resources.
- The court orders a stay of enforcement.
- The debtor's income from employment or other sources has terminated.
- The debtor's residence is located in another jurisdiction.
- The debtor has passed away.

Due to a hiring freeze, vacant positions could not be filled, resulting in the decrease in collections from the previous year.

GRAPH 1

Amount Collected on Maintenance Enforcement Program Files



File volume for the Maintenance Enforcement Program for 2001/02 averaged 46,021 over the 12-month period and total funds collected were $142,945,500.

For methodology related to this measure see page 43.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

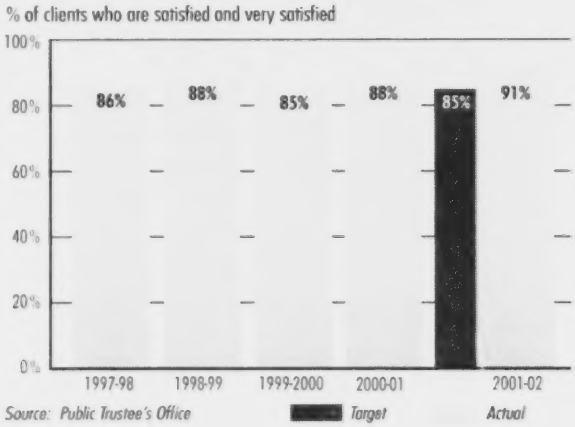
Key Measure: Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office

The Public Trustee's Office protects and administers the property of dependent adults, minor children and deceased persons where there is no one else able to act.

Client satisfaction with services provided by the Public Trustee's Office is defined as the percentage of clients who were "satisfied" and "very satisfied" based on a survey conducted by the Public Trustee's Office. This measure is used to monitor how well the Public Trustee's Office provides its services, and is one measure indicating access to justice services for persons in need. This measure is also used to improve services to clients and to establish policies and procedures where deficiencies are noted. In 2001/02 the satisfaction rate of those clients responding to the survey was 91 per cent, surpassing the target of 85 per cent. This is an increase from the 2000/01 satisfaction rate of 88 per cent.

GRAPH 2

Client Satisfaction with the Public Trustee's Office



During 2001/02, 2,739 surveys were sent to beneficiaries of estates, minors on achieving majority, parents and guardians of minors, and business partners. Nine hundred and thirty-seven surveys were returned, indicating a response rate of 34 per cent.

More information on the activities of the Office of the Public Trustee is available in the program's annual report, which can be obtained from the Office of the Public Trustee.

For methodology related to this measure see page 43.

Key Measure: Number of eligible Albertans receiving legal aid services

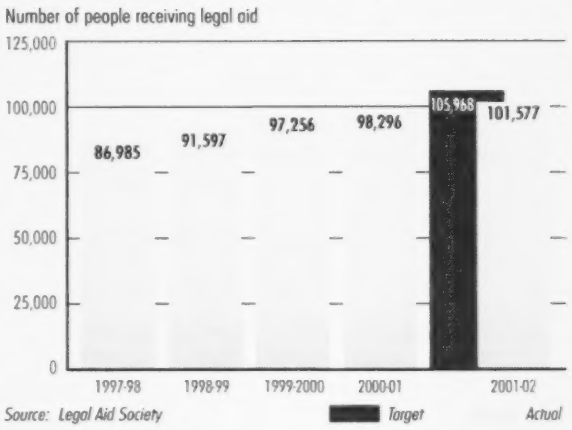
Legal aid volume measures the demand for legal aid services. It is defined as the number of eligible people receiving legal aid services through legal aid certificates and duty counsel. In 2001/02, 101,577 Albertans received legal aid services. Clients who were issued certificates accounted for 40,517 of that total, while duty counsel services accounted for 61,060. The number of Albertans receiving legal aid services in 2001/02 increased from 2000/01, when 98,296 legal aid clients were served, but is somewhat below the projected target of 105,968, as estimated by the Legal Aid Society in September 2000.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

Legal aid services in Alberta are largely provided by the private bar. Lawyers willing to act for legal aid recipients are listed on a roster and are issued certificates for individual cases. Participation is voluntary. Once the Legal Aid Society has appointed a lawyer, the solicitor-client relationship is, for the most part, as if the lawyer had been retained privately. Eligibility for legal aid coverage is defined by the Legal Aid Society and encompasses both financial and other criteria.

GRAPH 3

Number of Eligible Persons Receiving Legal Aid Services



Source: Legal Aid Society

The Legal Aid Society also operates a criminal duty counsel program in all major centres in the province, including youth courts. Lawyers conduct pre-court interviews with accused persons in custody in remand centres or police cells before their first appearance and also, time permitting, with persons not in custody. Where an accused wishes to enter a guilty plea, duty counsel may speak to sentence. Other functions of duty counsel include applying for an adjournment so that the accused may retain counsel, and speaking to bail. The duty counsel program ensures that an accused person will have the benefit of legal advice and assistance when appearing before the court unrepresented. All persons are entitled to duty counsel assistance, regardless of financial circumstances.

The number of legal aid clients served in Alberta is influenced, to some extent, by the number of applications that are received by the Legal Aid Society that meet the eligibility requirements for coverage. Some factors that influence the number of applications submitted are:

- financial eligibility requirements,
- restrictions on the type of cases eligible for legal aid coverage, and
- the effective use of duty counsel.

The number of legal aid applications increased by six per cent over the previous year during 2001/02, and the number of certificates issued increased by eight per cent. Of the certificates issued in 2001/02, 53 per cent were for adult criminal cases, 20 per cent were for charges under the *Young Offenders Act* and 27 per cent were for civil matters, including family law matters.

More information on the Legal Aid Program, including the number of applications approved and refused, is available in the program's annual report, which can be found on the Internet at *www.legalaid.ab.ca*.

For methodology related to this measure see page 43.

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

GOAL 4:

Improve access to civil and criminal justice

The justice system is responsible for providing the infrastructure to resolve criminal and civil disputes. This includes the provision of court resources, scheduling mechanisms, prosecutorial services and appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms. Where appropriate, mediation, judicial dispute resolution and mini-trials are used as alternatives to the traditional court process, and by speeding up the process and lowering costs, they can improve access.

Key Measures for Goal 4

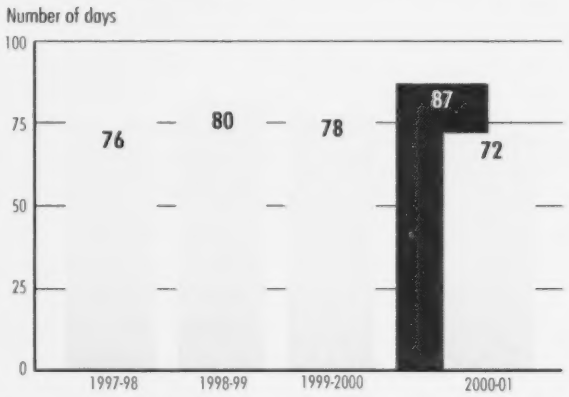
Key Measure: Median elapsed time from first to last appearance

The ministry must ensure that there is access to the courts in a reasonable amount of time. This measure indicates the median time in days that it takes to process a case in provincial criminal court from first to last appearance. Median elapsed time from first to last appearance represents the midpoint in the time elapsed between the first and last appearance for all cases processed.

The most recent data available is for 2000/01, and it indicates that the median elapsed time from first to last appearance is 72 days. The ministry exceeded our target for that year, which was to meet or be under the Canadian median of 87 days. In 1999/00, the median elapsed time in Alberta was 78 days. The decrease in median elapsed time may be largely attributed to early case resolution initiatives.

GRAPH 4

Median Elapsed Time from First to Last Appearance



Source: Juristat Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE, vol. 22, no. 2

For methodology related to this measure see page 44.

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

GOAL 5:
Provide effective legal services to the Government of Alberta

The government performs a number of roles as service provider, community partner and lawmaker. These roles involve relationships with individuals, families, communities, businesses and other governments. Effective legal services reduce the potential for conflict involving the government and protect and advance the interests of the government. By providing effective legal and related strategic services, Justice assists other ministries in achieving their objectives.

Key Measures for Goal 5

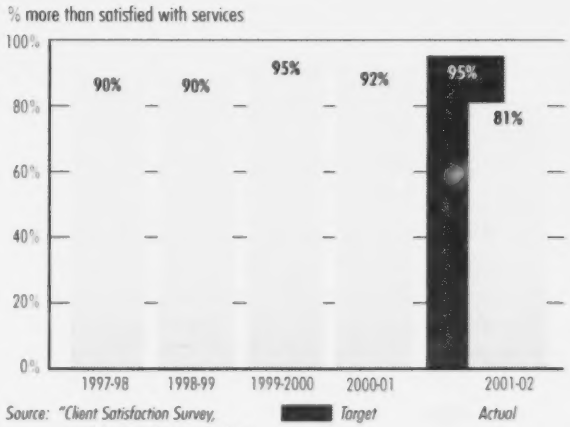
Key Measure: Client satisfaction with legal services

This measure indicates the level of client satisfaction among government clients who use the services of the Legal Services Division. Client satisfaction is measured by rating applicability, clarity, client focus, courtesy, responsiveness, preparedness, thoroughness and accessibility of Alberta Justice lawyers. Questionnaires also include a rating for overall satisfaction with civil legal services provided by Alberta Justice.

The target for client satisfaction with legal services for 2001/02 was to ensure that 95 per cent of Legal Services' most time-intensive clients were "more than satisfied" to "very satisfied." In 2001/02, 81 per cent of all clients were more than satisfied to very satisfied.

The 81 per cent result is less than the previous year's result of 92 per cent, and below the 2001/02 target mainly due to methodological changes made to the survey in 2001/02. In previous years, only the most time-intensive clients were surveyed. This year, the survey sample was drawn from all clients, not just the most time-intensive group. The impact of this methodological change has been lower satisfaction rates in 2001/02.

GRAPH 5
Client Satisfaction with Legal Services



Source: "Client Satisfaction Survey, Legal Services Division, Civil Law, 2001/02" Alberta Finance

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

The results of the 2001/02 survey show that the respondents who had more legal services provided by Alberta Justice were more satisfied overall than those clients who had fewer services provided. For example, in terms of the clarity or understandability of advice given by Alberta Justice lawyers, survey respondents who had used legal services ten or more times in the past year were found to be more satisfied than one time users.

The results of the survey assist Alberta Justice in assessing success at delivering effective legal services to government. When asked if the legal services provided by Alberta Justice had helped them achieve their department's corporate goals, 99 per cent of clients responded yes.

For methodology see page 44.

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Strategic Objectives and Accomplishments

The 2001-04 Alberta Justice Business Plan focused on a number of key strategic objectives that were aimed at improving the delivery of our core businesses in a manner that honours the priorities of Albertans. Listed below are the accomplishments achieved on our objectives and initiatives in 2001/02.

Access to justice and cost of administering justice

Improve access and court services through the use of Early Case Resolution

The Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta issued a Notice to the Legal Profession implementing an Early Case Resolution Protocol across the province, effective March 1, 2002. This initiative requires the Crown and defence counsel to address critical issues in cases at an early stage in the court proceedings, reducing the number of cases unnecessarily set down for trial. The Early Case Resolution Committee will review the initiative by the end of the 2002/03 fiscal year.

Provide Albertans with access to alternative forms of dispute resolution

Mediation services are available to parties with cases before the Provincial Court, Civil Division in Edmonton and Calgary. Parties may request mediation, or cases may be selected for the mediation process. Trained and experienced mediators assist the parties in resolving their cases in ways that meet their needs. During the 2001/02 fiscal year, agreements were reached in over 70 per cent of the nearly 1,300 cases referred to mediation.

Mediation is also available at no charge for cases involving custody, access, support, guardianship or child welfare issues before either the Court of Queen's Bench or the Provincial Court, where one party has an income below $40,000. This service is available in 15 communities across the province, with the exception of child welfare mediation, which is available in eight communities.

Judicial Dispute Resolution (JDR) is available to people with family cases before the Provincial Court, Family Division in Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. Parties may choose which judge they wish to have preside over their case. Only three to five per cent of cases that have gone to JDR subsequently go to trial. JDR is also available for family cases in the Court of Queen's Bench.

In civil cases heard in the Court of Queen's Bench, JDR involves a justice who attempts to settle a civil claim before trial. The process is voluntary and parties may select the justice who will preside over their case.

In all types of JDR, after hearing a summary of the evidence, the justice or judge provides a non-binding opinion as to the likely outcome of a case should the matter proceed to trial.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

Expand financial eligibility guidelines to ensure that legal aid will be accessible to more Albertans

Legal Aid expanded its financial eligibility guidelines by five per cent as of April 1, 2001, so that more low-income Albertans would be eligible for legal aid assistance.

Establish a staff counsel pilot project that will provide quality legal services to eligible applicants in the family law areas currently provided by Legal Aid

Legal Aid's Family Law Staff Counsel Pilot Project opened in Edmonton on July 1, 2001 and started in Calgary on October 1, 2001. The project is led by a senior counsel with extensive experience in the area of family law. Each office has an assistant senior counsel and up to 13 lawyers with varying degrees of legal experience in family law. The project provides legal aid services to eligible applicants with family law problems, such as divorce, child custody and access and child welfare. Legal Aid has arranged for the four-year pilot project to be independently evaluated for quality of service and cost-effectiveness.

Improve communication with the public regarding the administration of justice and ensure citizens understand how their justice system works

A public legal education (PLE) strategy was developed following consultation with other public legal education providers. The strategy proposes a variety of initiatives Alberta Justice may undertake, either alone or in partnership with other PLE providers, to increase Albertans' knowledge and understanding of the justice system. Development began on a teacher resource manual for the justice portion of the Grade 10 social studies curriculum. The resource manual will be available to teachers for the 2002/03 school year. A number of other initiatives identified in the public legal education strategy are currently being developed and implemented.

Continue to expand the education material on the Alberta Justice web site

New web pages were developed to support the department's public legal education initiative. This included development of a database of public legal education providers from across Alberta, with contact information for each. It is anticipated that the web pages and database will be posted during the 2002/03 fiscal year.

Complete policy development work and make a recommendation to government with respect to creating class action legislation

Alberta Justice has completed its policy development work, and proposals for legislation are currently under consideration with respect to class action legislation that would provide procedural rules to allow for multiple plaintiffs or defendants in one action, while safeguarding against the proliferation of actions.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

Replace the current* Public Trustee Act *and make amendments to adopt the "prudent investor rule"

Proclaimed on February 1, 2002, the *Trustee Amendment Act, 2001* legislated the "prudent investor rule," which specifies that a trustee must make investment decisions based on reasonable returns while avoiding undue risk.

The *Public Trustee Act* is also under review, with the goal of updating and modernizing its provisions to better meet the needs of Albertans.

Support for families

Propose reforms to court structure and process in family law cases

The government's response to the Unified Family Court Task Force Report and Recommendations is still being developed. Consultations with the federal government and the judiciary are ongoing regarding the feasibility of various options.

Continue to work with the Ministry of Children's Services to ensure that the Maintenance Enforcement Program, family mediation services and other child-focused programs continue to provide children with timely and appropriate assistance

Effective April 1, 2000, Family Mediation Services became part of Alberta Justice. It was formerly known as "Mediation Services" and was part of Alberta Children's Services. It provides mediation in child welfare cases and also in custody, access and maintenance cases where one party has an income below $40,000. This service is available across the province, with the exception of child welfare mediation, which is not yet available outside of Edmonton and Calgary.

During 2001/02, over 1,400 cases were referred to family mediation through the Court of Queen's Bench, the Family Division of the Provincial Court, other agencies, or self-referral. Of these, full or partial agreements were reached in over 70 per cent of the cases.

The Maintenance Enforcement Program contributed to the Alberta Children and Youth Services Initiative by collecting court-ordered financial support for creditors and their children.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

Continue to participate in the Calgary Domestic Violence Court pilot project, and support other family violence-related initiatives around the province. Collaborate with other ministries to support the Alberta Mental Health Board as they develop and implement a provincial framework to address the treatment needs of perpetrators of family violence

The Calgary Domestic Violence Court started hearing cases in 2000. The court is an Intake Court with dedicated judges and two dedicated Crown prosecutors. The Calgary Justice Working Committee and Calgary's Action Committee Against Violence developed the Calgary Justice Working Project, of which the Domestic Violence Court is one component. The Calgary Justice Working Project, now called HomeFront, is a specialized, coordinated system that is integrated with community services.

The Edmonton Domestic Violence Trial Court started hearing cases in January 2002. The Edmonton Crown Office worked with the assistant chief judge responsible for Edmonton Provincial Court, Criminal Division, to develop the specialized court. Two dedicated Crown prosecutors have been designated to the court.

The victims and perpetrators of family violence will receive focused attention in the pilot Calgary Family Court Initiative. Court, judicial, prosecutorial, enforcement and treatment resources are dedicated to the issue of family violence, and outcomes will be monitored to gauge effectiveness.

The HomeFront Evaluation Committee has been established to monitor outcomes and gauge effectiveness as this is a national demonstration project funded by three levels of government and the community in Calgary. More information on HomeFront can be found at *www.homefrontcalgary.com*.

Bring forward proposals for a Family Law Reform Act to consolidate and amend Alberta family law so it is accessible and relevant to Albertans

The public consultation component of the Family Law Reform Project began in January 2002. The purpose of the project is to consolidate and amend Alberta family law to make it more accessible and relevant to Albertans. As part of the public consultation phase, a series of round table discussions were held and focus groups and opinion surveys were conducted. A discussion paper was also prepared and the public was able to provide input through written submissions and a web site. Based on the public consultations, amendments regarding personal relationships and amendments to consolidate and update Alberta family law will be prepared for consideration.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

Enhanced role for victims

Establish specialized Public Assistance Units where appropriate

Public Assistance Unit staff provide a crucial link between other victim service providers in the community and the Crown Prosecutors' Offices. This assists in the provision of a seamless service to victims at all stages of the criminal process.

Public assistance services include:

- Notifying victims of domestic violence of bail releases.
- Contacting victims where early case resolution is recommended.
- Processing victim impact statements and restitution requests.
- Providing general information to victims of crime.

Many victim calls previously handled by prosecutors are now delegated to public assistance staff, which provides victims with easier access to information and reduces the amount of time prosecutors spend on calls that do not relate to a legal issue.

Develop policy and make recommendations for an Act to provide a civil process that will grant restitution to victims where there have been gains from an unlawful act

The *Victims Compensation and Restitution Payment Act* was passed by the Legislature on November 28, 2001.

The first part of the Act will allow the court to order that property obtained by the commission of certain illegal acts be taken away from those responsible for committing the illegal acts and returned to the victims, whether or not the person responsible for the illegal act has been charged or convicted.

The second part of the Act applies only where a court has convicted an offender and made a restitution order. The Act provides a summary procedure which allows the court to inquire as to the ability of the offender to pay restitution and to immediately order that property of the offender be turned over to the victim up to the value of the restitution order.

The Act has not yet been proclaimed and an implementation plan is being developed.

Community justice approaches

Work in partnership with stakeholders and other government ministries to make restorative justice options more widely available in the province

Crown Prosecutors' Offices have each taken part in community development projects or initiatives of a restorative justice nature. These include initiatives involving Aboriginal justice, youth justice and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS). All projects and initiatives have a focus on working with the community and other justice stakeholders to increase the restorative capacity of the community.

First Nations justice initiatives

Continue to promote culturally sensitive approaches to prosecutions

The Criminal Justice Division has implemented a four-phase Aboriginal Cultural Understanding training strategy. Under this strategy, all Crown prosecutors are scheduled to receive Aboriginal cultural training by 2003.

In conjunction with the Oldman River Cultural Centre of the Peigan First Nation, the Criminal Justice Division held its first four-day First Nation cultural camp for Crown prosecutors in September 2001. Nineteen Crown prosecutors participated in this very successful and intensive cultural experience. A second camp for a further 20 Crown prosecutors is scheduled for 2002.

Continue to support Aboriginal court initiatives

The Tsuu T'ina Nation Court and Peacemaker initiative blends aboriginal justice traditions, including an Office of the Peacemaker, with the Provincial Court of Alberta. Court is currently being held in the Band Council chambers of the Tsuu T'ina Nation. The judge, Crown prosecutor, judicial clerks and peacemakers are all Aboriginal. The Tsuu T'ina court has jurisdiction over offences that have taken place on the Tsuu T'ina Nation.

The Provincial Court of Alberta circuits to the Siksika First Nation. When available, an Aboriginal judge, Crown prosecutor and clerk attend at this location to provide court to the Siksika First Nation in a culturally sensitive manner.

The Provincial Court of Alberta also circuits to the Alexis First Nation. The court works with the Alexis First Nation to provide services to the community in a culturally sensitive manner.

Cross-ministry Initiatives and Corporate Strategies

Alberta Justice has identified several ministry-wide corporate strategies to develop effective support mechanisms that will help achieve our business plan goals. In addition, Alberta Justice is a partner with shared responsibilities in many government initiatives that seek to improve the quality of services in areas not traditionally associated with the administration of justice.

Aboriginal Policy Initiative

Alberta Justice is a co-champion of the Aboriginal Policy Initiative (API), one of four Government of Alberta cross-ministry initiatives. The Aboriginal Justice Initiatives Unit represents Alberta Justice on all six working sub-committees. The sub-committees report to the Interdepartmental API Committee, which in turn reports to the API Champion and Supporting Deputies' Committee.

The strategies and targets identified through the API establish a framework for action through which all ministries can work together, and work with other partners on Aboriginal issues, in a more consistent, timely, integrated and proactive manner. The following strategies and targets identified by Alberta Justice, in partnership with Alberta Solicitor General, promote safe communities, support economic and social stability through capacity building and self-reliance initiatives, and promote enhanced cultural awareness within Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General.

Increase the number of Aboriginal communities served by community justice initiatives

Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General funded 60 projects in 48 Aboriginal communities in 2001/02. This is an increase of 36 per cent in the number of projects and 30 per cent in the number of communities served over 2000/01. Community justice projects include crime prevention, victims programs, youth justice committees, First Nation Police Services and court initiatives, as well as contracted probation and court worker services.

Provide Aboriginal cultural awareness training to 370 Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General staff by March 31, 2002.

Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General provided Aboriginal cultural training to 465 staff members in 2001/02 and exceeded the target by 26 per cent.

Children and Youth Services Initiative

Defend the* Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Act *and provide ongoing family law support to the Child and Family Service Authorities (CFSAs)

Support for the PCHIP Act continues on an as-needed basis; the need for extraordinary legal support ended in December 2001.

Alberta Justice continues to provide legal services to the Ministry of Children's Services and to all CFSAs. Such legal services include legal representation in court (by Alberta Justice counsel or retained agents) and related court liason work.

Three-year legislative plan

Bring forward proposals for family law legislation, review recommendations for legislative change and review legislation administered by Alberta Justice for relevance and necessity

Alberta Justice worked in close cooperation with Queen's Printer to prepare the Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 (RSA 2000). The RSA 2000 is an official consolidation of the public acts of Alberta. Most acts were renumbered, references were updated, and gender-neutral language was used wherever possible. The official copies of RSA 2000 and the revised Statutes of Alberta, 2001 were deposited with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly on December 19, 2001 and proclaimed in force effective January 1, 2002.

Alberta Justice also continued work on the development of family law legislation as recommended by an MLA committee, and Bill 30, the *Adult Interdependent Relationships Act*, was prepared for introduction in the Legislative Assembly in spring 2002. The department was also planning to develop proposals for a comprehensive set of procedural rules for administrative tribunals and an act to provide streamlined procedures for several jurisdictional issues, but the scope of the work required for the family law legislation pushed this initiative back to 2004.

Recommendations for legislative changes contained in reports of the Alberta Law Reform Institute and the Uniform Law Conference were reviewed on an ongoing basis.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

Human resource strategies

Ensure appropriate links between corporate direction and ministry implementation

Alberta Justice has implemented performance management processes to ensure employee performance goals are aligned with those of the division, the department and the government. The Human Resource Divisional Plan aligns directly with the government-wide Corporate Human Resource Plan.

Alberta Justice has supported strategies for continuous learning through the provision of developmental training courses to over 600 employees to date. The provision of additional leadership development through supervisory training opportunities for 60 supervisors, continuity strategies through 17 mentoring agreements, and training in leading a positive workplace to another 50 supervisors and managers has positioned Alberta Justice to identify and develop the leaders of tomorrow. Confirmation of progress has been monitored through the use of employee satisfaction data.

The management of change and reorganization was advanced through the Alberta Justice Organizational Renewal Planning Project, which identifies areas for long-term renewal of our ministry.

Information management

Ensure an effective information management system is in place to support the mandate of Alberta Justice

A secure and private Alberta Justice/Solicitor General Intranet-based Management Information Reporting (MIR) prototype was completed to expand the ministry's capacity to report on key business plan and service delivery performance measures.

Alberta Justice was represented on national committees (i.e. Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics — Liaison Officer Committee) and provincial committees (i.e. Traffic Safety Data Collection Project) to ensure that management information conforms to national and provincial standards. Alberta Justice is also represented on the Information Technology Sub-Committee of the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police. This provides an opportunity for dialogue with other levels of government in the development of integrated networks and other shared services in support of the justice system. In addition, Alberta Justice works with the Office of the Alberta Chief Information Officer to ensure that ministry information management initiatives are consistent with, and supportive of, provincial corporate strategies.

In preparation for the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, the requirements analysis and technical design were completed to identify the changes required to make Alberta Justice's information systems compliant with the new federal legislation. Also, an improved contingent liability system was implemented to enhance the accuracy and completeness of the reporting of those financial claims against the Crown that are known to Alberta Justice.

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Forward-looking information

The new Alberta government cabinet structure implemented following the March 2001 election resulted in the separation of the former Alberta Justice into two ministries: Alberta Justice and Attorney General, and Alberta Solicitor General. As a result of this division, the 2001-04 Alberta Justice Business Plan and its five goals and accompanying performance measures were split to reflect the distinct and shared responsibilities of the two ministries.

As a direct result of this split, two goals in the Justice business plan were left with no performance measures. New performance measures for goals one and two have been under development over the course of the year and are reflected in the 2002-05 business plan.

Goal one in the 2002-05 business plan maintains the ministry's focus on safe communities. This goal will be measured by public perception of safety in the home and neighbourhood as it was in the 2000-03 business plan. This goal and these measures are shared with Alberta Solicitor General. Goal two in the 2002-05 business plan maintains the former Justice Ministry's focus on enhancing the role of victims in the criminal justice system. This goal will be measured by results from a client satisfaction survey of the ministry's public assistance program.

Goal three, the ministry's goal related to providing services to Albertans in need, has a new performance measure in 2002-05: dollars due compared to dollars received by the Maintenance Enforcement Program. This will augment the amount collected per file that the ministry presently reports under goal three.

Alberta Justice will continue its work in developing and improving performance measures in future business plans by finding better ways to measure our performance through qualitative and quantative analysis.

Internal resourcing and staff retention presented significant challenges to the ministry in 2001/02. Over the past year the ministry has been studying workload and stress issues in the criminal justice area, and has found that Crown prosecutors in Alberta have a heavier workload than their counterparts throughout Canada. In addition, while there is a steady number of cases, their nature, extent and complexity is increasing. The ministry found that Crown prosecutors required more competitive compensation in order to be retained, and 15 prosecutor positions were created in an effort to reduce excessive workloads.

While considerable headway has been made, resource and staffing issues will continue to present challenges to the ministry. In 2002-05 Alberta Justice will explore new and innovative initiatives to best use its financial resources and to provide enhanced skills development opportunities for department employees. We will also continue to work at addressing spending and resource pressures within the ministry.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

In 2002-05 Alberta Justice will maintain working relationships with Alberta Solicitor General to support shared initiatives in youth justice, Aboriginal justice, organized crime and victims' services. The ministry will also bolster its partnerships with other provincial ministries, the judiciary, the legal community, Aboriginal people, and our stakeholders in policing, community organizations and local governments.

Many of the recommendations offered by the Justice Summit delegates continue to be a driving force behind our business planning. In keeping with the recommendations and spirit of the 1999 summit, the ministry will continue to consult with the public to ensure that our justice system addresses the current needs and priorities of Albertans.

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

METHODOLOGY

GOAL 3:

Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need

Key Measure:

- The amount collected on Maintenance Enforcement Program files

Methodology: The Maintenance Enforcement Program collects and reports the amount collected per file as part of their operational data collection processes. The amount collected is based on program revenues tracked in the maintenance enforcement tracking system (METS) and reconciled to the bank on a monthly basis. The file volume is an average over a 12-month period based on the number of active files extracted monthly. Collections per file are derived by dividing the amount collected by the file volume.

Key Measure:

- Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office

Methodology: Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office is assessed using an internally-conducted client satisfaction survey. Survey forms are sent to beneficiaries and minors after completion of administration and following payment of their beneficial interest distribution. Surveys are also sent to business partners, parents and guardians of minors and private and public guardians of dependent adults.

Based on the recommendations of The Advisory Group, a survey consulting firm, the format of the surveys was changed on April 1, 2001. The new surveys no longer ask for an importance rating, as the accumulated survey data (from 1993 to 2001) clearly indicates that all questions being asked are important.

Key Measure:

- Number of eligible Albertans receiving legal aid services

Methodology: The Legal Aid Society collects and provides Alberta Justice with the number of eligible Albertans receiving legal aid services. This measure includes persons assisted by duty counsel and those for whom a certificate was issued for the appointment of counsel. The two numbers added together provide the volume of clients for the fiscal year.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

GOAL 4:

Improve access to civil and criminal justice

Key Measure:

- Median elapsed time from first to last appearance

Methodology: Performance data for median elapsed time from first to last appearance is obtained from the Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS). Median elapsed time from first to last appearance represents the mid-point in elapsed time between first and last appearance for all cases processed. In 2000/01, 50 per cent of the cases took under 72 days to dispose and 50 per cent of the cases took over 72 days to dispose.

The ministry provides annual data from the Justice Online Information Network to the CCJS Adult Criminal Court Survey through an automated interface. At CCJS, the data are edited, verified and signed off with the ministry. The nine jurisdictions for the Canadian median elapsed time include: Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. These nine jurisdictions represent approximately 80 per cent of the national provincial criminal court caseload.

GOAL 5:

Provide effective legal services to the Government of Alberta

Key Measure:

- Client satisfaction with legal services

Methodology: Client satisfaction with legal services is determined by an internally conducted survey. Alberta Finance's Statistics Unit provided consultancy advice on the survey in 2001/02, and also analyzed the survey results. A random sample of 492 clients was chosen from the total population of 6,842. Out of the 492 surveys sent out, 245 responses were received, for a response rate of 50 per cent. Based on this response, overall survey results are precise within six per cent (plus or minus), 95 times out of 100. Nine questions in the survey asked respondents to rate their level of satisfaction. The satisfaction scale provided for these questions was made up of five levels of satisfaction, labelling one as "not at all satisfied," three as "satisfied" and 5 as "very satisfied."

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Ministry of Justice

Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2002

Auditor's Report 49
Statement of Operations 51
Statement of Financial Position 52
Statement of Changes in Financial Position 53
Notes to the Financial Statements 54
Schedule of Revenues 63
Schedule of Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object 64
Schedule of Budget 65
Schedule of Comparision of Expenses – Directly Incurred and Capital Investments by Element to Authorized Budget 66
Schedule of Salary and Benefits Disclosure 72
Schedule of Related Party Transactions 73
Schedule of Allocated Costs 74

AUDITOR GENERAL
Alberta

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

I have audited the statement of financial position of the Ministry of Justice as at March 31, 2002, and the statements of operations and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Ministry. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

The Ministry is required to follow the corporate government accounting policies and reporting practices as disclosed in Note 2. These accounting policies were established by Alberta Finance and are consistent across ministries. With certain exceptions, the basis of accounting is in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. My reservation of opinion in this auditor's report identifies the exceptions from Canadian generally accepted accounting principles that arise from following the accounting policies established by Alberta Finance.

The following accounting policies are exceptions from Canadian generally accepted accounting principles:

Capitalization of assets

The Ministry employs a policy of expensing new system development under $100,000 and all other capital asset purchases under $15,000. Consequently, a significant amount of resources available to the Ministry for future use has been recorded as if it had been consumed. It is estimated that at March 31, 2002 assets and net assets have been understated by approximately $8.8 million representing the unconsumed cost of capital assets at that date. The effect of expensing rather than amortizing capital assets is to overstate expenses for the year ended March 31, 2002 by approximately $600,000.

Claims under the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act

The Ministry is responsible for evaluating and paying claims made under this Act. As disclosed in Note 9, the Ministry does not record a liability for personal injury claims that are likely to result in settlement. When such claims are likely payable, Canadian generally accepted accounting principles require recording an expense of the period and setting up liabilities. The effect of not reflecting these claims in the financial statements is to understate liabilities at March 31, 2002 by approximately $76.6 million and understate expenses for the year ended March 31, 2002 by approximately $5.8 million.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters discussed in the preceding paragraphs, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Ministry as at March 31, 2002, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

CA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
May 22, 2002

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Operations
Year Ended March 31, 2002

(in thousands)

	2002 Budget (Schedule 3)	2002 Actual	2001 Actual
Revenues (Schedule 1)			
Transfers from the Government of Canada	$ 8,158	$ 9,313	$ 7,954
Investment Income	325	340	438
Fees, Permits and Licences	30,161	31,870	32,850
Other Revenues	42,697	46,016	59,301
	81,341	87,539	100,543
Expenses - Directly Incurred (Note 2b and Schedule 7)			
Voted (Schedules 2 and 4)			
Ministry Support Services	12,546	11,388	13,751
Court Services	84,027	89,128	98,507
Legal Services	56,640	60,952	52,609
Support of Legal Aid	27,242	27,242	22,542
Public Trustee	7,433	7,651	7,493
Medical Examiner	4,441	4,532	4,336
	192,329	200,893	199,238
Statutory (Schedules 2 and 4)			
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	27,587	24,297	22,415
Valuation Adjustments			
Provision for Doubtful Accounts	200	(1,247)	356
Provision for Vacation Pay	173	(807)	906
	27,960	22,243	23,677
	220,289	223,136	222,915
Net Operating Results	$ (138,948)	$ (135,597)	$ (122,372)

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Financial Position
As at March 31, 2002

	(in thousands) 2002	2001
Assets		
Cash	$ 7,200	$ 8,101
Accounts Receivable (Note 4)	50,142	54,715
Advances (Note 5)	65	71
Capital Assets (Note 6)	6,183	4,887
	$ 63,590	$ 67,774
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	$ 32,149	$ 46,982
Unearned Revenue	1,044	951
	33,193	47,933
Net Assets		
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	21,293	10,387
Prior Years Adjustment (Note 13)	(1,452)	(1,452)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year - Restated	19,841	8,935
Net Operating Results	(135,597)	(122,372)
Net Transfer from General Revenues	146,153	133,278
Net Assets at End of Year	30,397	19,841
	$ 63,590	$ 67,774

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Changes in Financial Position
Year Ended March 31, 2002

	(in thousands) 2002	2001
Operating Transactions		
Net Operating Results	$ (135,597)	$ (122,372)
Non-cash items:		
Amortization	686	881
Valuation Adjustments	(2,054)	1,262
	(136,965)	(120,229)
Decrease (Increase) in Accounts Receivable	5,820	(22,094)
Decrease (Increase) in Advances	6	(2)
(Decrease) Increase in Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	(14,026)	8,523
Increase (Decrease) in Unearned Revenues	93	(52)
Cash Used by Operating Transactions	(145,072)	(133,854)
Investing Transactions		
Purchase of Capital Assets (Schedule 4)	(2,004)	(1,127)
Transfer of Capital Assets to Innovation and Science	22	-
Cash Used by Investing Transactions	(1,982)	(1,127)
Financing Transactions:		
Net Transfer from General Revenues	146,153	133,278
Net Cash Used	(901)	(1,703)
Cash, Beginning of Year	8,101	9,804
Cash, End of Year	$ 7,200	$ 8,101

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2002

Note 1 Authority and Purpose

The Ministry of Justice operates under the authority of the Government Organization Act, Chapter G-10, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000. The Department of Justice is the sole entity for which the Minister of Justice has been designated as responsible for various Acts by the Government Organization Act and its regulations.

The Ministry's purpose is to ensure equality and fairness in the administration of justice in Alberta. The Ministry's goals are: to create an active partnership with other Government Ministries, the community and stakeholders to advance goals, to promote safe communities in Alberta; to facilitate the rehabilitation of offenders and help victims; to provide access to civil and criminal justice; to ensure access to justice services for persons in need; and to provide effective legal services to the Government of Alberta.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the following accounting policies that have been established by government for all departments. The recommendations of the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants are the primary source for the disclosed basis of accounting. Recommendations of the Accounting Standards Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, other authoritative pronouncements, accounting literature, and published financial statements relating to either the public sector or analogous situations in the private sector are used to supplement the recommendations of the Public Sector Accounting Board where it is considered appropriate.

(a) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Ministry of Justice, which consists of the Department of Justice for which the Minister of Justice is accountable. These financial statements include the activities of the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims program (a statutory appropriation).

All departments of the Government of Alberta operate within the General Revenue Fund (the Fund). The Fund is administered by the Minister of Finance. All cash receipts of departments are deposited into the Fund and all cash disbursements made by departments are paid from the Fund. Net transfer from General Revenues is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements made.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

(b) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual method of accounting except for payments on Motor Vehicle Accident Claims judgment debts which are recorded when received. Cash received for which goods or services have not been provided by year end is recorded as unearned revenue.

Expenses

Directly Incurred

Directly incurred expenses are those costs the Ministry has primary responsibility and accountability for, as reflected in the Government's budget documents.

Directly incurred expenses include:

- amortization of capital assets.
- pension costs which comprise the cost of employer contributions for current service of employees during the year.
- valuation adjustments which include changes in the valuation allowances used to reflect financial assets at their net recoverable or other appropriate value. Valuation adjustments also represent the change in management's estimate of future payments arising from obligations relating to vacation pay, guarantees and indemnities.

Incurred by Others

Services contributed by other entities in support of the Ministry's operations are disclosed in Schedule 7.

Assets

Financial assets of the Ministry are limited to financial claims, such as advances to and receivables from other organizations, employees and other individuals.

Assets acquired by right are not included. Capital assets of the Ministry are recorded at historical cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The threshold for capitalizing new systems development is $100,000 and the threshold for all other capital assets is $15,000.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

(b) Basis of Financial Reporting (continued)

Liabilities

Liabilities represent all financial claims payable by the Ministry at fiscal year end.

Net Assets

Net assets represents the difference between the value of assets held by the Ministry and its liabilities.

Valuation of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act.

The fair values of accounts receivable, advances, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and unearned revenues are estimated to approximate their book values.

Note 3 Government Restructuring and Maintenance Enforcement Program
(in thousands)

As a result of government restructuring announced on March 15, 2001, there were the following changes in the responsibilities of the Ministry:

Responsibility for various Acts by the Government Organization Act and its regulations relating to Public Security, Corrections, and Victims of Crime were transferred to the new Ministry of the Solicitor General.

Comparatives for 2001 have been restated as if the Ministry had always been assigned its current responsibilities.

Net liabilities as previously reported at March 31, 2000	$(10,106)
Transfer to the Ministry of the Solicitor General	20,493
Net assets restated as a result of Government Restructuring	10,387
Prior years adjustment – Maintenance Enforcement Program (Note 13)	(1,452)
Net assets restated at April 1, 2000	$ 8,935

Note 4 Accounts Receivable
(in thousands)

	2002			2001
	Gross Amount	Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	Net Realizable Value	Net Realizable Value
Government of Canada	$ 9,312	$ -	$ 9,312	$ 2,511
Fines	29,187	792	28,395	20,413
Fine Late Payment Penalty	9,164	445	8,719	7,357
Other	3,954	238	3,716	24,434
	$ 51,617	$ 1,475	$ 50,142	$ 54,715

Accounts receivable are unsecured and non-interest bearing. Other accounts receivable for 2001 includes a one time transfer from a pension plan of $17,100.

Note 5 Advances
(in thousands)

	2002			2001
	Gross Amount	Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	Net Realizable Value	Net Realizable Value
Accountable advance	$ 65	$ -	$ 65	$ 71

This represents repayable accountable travel advances.

Note 6 Capital Assets
(in thousands)

		2002			2001
	Estimated Useful Life	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Equipment	10 years	$ 3,266	$ 2,841	$ 425	$ 405
Building	40 years	17	1	16	16
Computer hardware and software	5-10 years	11,988	6,246	5,742	4,466
Total		$ 15,271	$ 9,088	$ 6,183	$ 4,887

Note 7 Commitments
(in thousands)

As at March 31, 2002, the Department is committed under contracts, which expire on various dates to 2008, totaling $7,927 (2001 $9,245).

The Department leases equipment and vehicles under operating leases, that expire on various dates to 2007. The aggregate amounts payable for the unexpired terms of these leases are as follows:

Year	(in thousands)
2003	$ 132
2004	97
2005	37
2006	11
2007	2
Total	$ 279

Note 8 General Contingencies
(in thousands)

At March 31, 2002, the Ministry is a defendant in thirty two legal claims (2001, thirty eight legal claims). Twenty nine of these claims have specified amount totaling $137,231 and the remaining three have not specified any amount (2001, thirty four with a specified amount of $78,930 and four with no specified amount). Included in the total legal claims are four amounting to $3,000, in which the Ministry has been jointly named with other entities (2001, four claims amounting to $12,718). Nineteen claims amounting to $103,529 are covered by the Alberta Risk Management Fund (2001, twenty seven claims totaling $76,269).

The resulting loss, if any, from these claims can not be determined.

Within the provision of the Public Trustee Act, the Office of the Public Trustee remits unclaimed estate monies which is reported as general revenue of the Department. If entitled beneficiaries are subsequently located, previously unclaimed estate monies are returned to the Office of the Public Trustee for distribution to the beneficiaries.

Note 9 Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program
(in thousands)

Personal Injury Settlements

The Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program is a publicly administered program that pays for judgments arising from motor vehicle accidents involving uninsured or unidentified vehicles in Alberta. The program operates under the authority of the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act. At March 31, 2002, there were 2,384 (2001 2,018) unsettled motor vehicle accident claims under this program amounting to $273,497 (2001 $272,129). Of the unsettled claims, it was estimated that approximately $76,579 (2001 $70,754) may arise from court ordered judgments.

The Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act states that in order for claimants involved in motor vehicle accidents with uninsured or unidentified vehicles to be entitled to compensation, the Minister of Justice must receive a court judgment. In accordance with the Act, liabilities for personal injury claims are accrued when a court ordered judgment is received. Liabilities for motor vehicle accident claims amounting to $772 at March 31, 2002 (2001 $813) are included in the total claim expenditures of $20,100 (2001 $19,255).

Supplementary Medical and Rehabilitation Expenses

The estimated liability for supplementary medical and rehabilitation expenses on approved applications filed up to March 31, 2002, is $6,804 (2001 $6,393) and has been recorded as a liability. As at March 31, 2002, the maximum amount that may be payable to or on behalf of entitled applicants pursuant to the limits set in Section 17 of the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act was approximately $28,184 (2001 $26,336).

Note 10 Trust Funds Under Administration
(in thousands)

The Ministry administers trust funds that are regulated funds consisting of public money over which the Legislature has no power of appropriation. Because the Province has no equity in the funds and administers them for the purpose of various trusts, they are not included in the Ministry's financial statements.

As at March 31, 2002, the amount of trust assets under administration net of trust liabilities was as follows:

	2002	2001
Public Trustee - Trust Funds	$ 410,909	$ 378,200
Various Court Offices	31,318	32,538
Fines Distribution Trust	5,589	6,570
Maintenance Enforcement	3,458	3,626
Solicitors Trust	1,316	1,992
	452,590	422,926
Public Trustee - Other Estate Assets	46,236	27,835
	$ 498,826	$ 450,761

The Office of the Public Trustee administers the estates of decedents, dependent adults and minors. Total trust fund receipts and income adjustments exceeded total trust fund disbursements in 2001-2002 by $51,110 (2001 $19,567). The major sources of receipts and income include pensions and similar receipts; investment income; and acquisition and sale of client estates. Significant disbursements include beneficiary distributions; client care and maintenance payments; release of client assets; and fees and taxes paid on behalf of clients.

In addition, the Office of the Public Trustee administers other estate assets consisting of client owned securities and investments, real estate holdings, accounts receivable, and personal property and other assets totaling $57,273 as at March 31, 2002, (2001 $36,961). These assets are valued at fair value at the date the Office obtains custody or nominal value when fair value is not readily determinable. Client liabilities, as at March 31, 2002, of $11,037 (2001 $9,126), are comprised of accounts, mortgages, and notes payable and are recorded at nominal value where actual value is not readily determinable. Net assets of $46,236 (2001 $27,835), are not included in the Ministry's financial statements.

The Court Offices receive and disburse payments for fines, bail and other payments involving civil litigants. Total Court trust disbursements exceeded total trust fund receipts in 2001-2002 by $1,220 (2001 $5,173).

The Maintenance Enforcement Program receives and disburses court ordered maintenance and child support. Total trust disbursements exceeded total trust fund receipts in 2001-2002 by $168 (2001, receipts exceeded disbursements $1,317).

Note 11 Payments Under Agreement
(in thousands)

The Ministry has entered into agreements to deliver programs and services that are fully funded by the Government of Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Costs incurred under these agreements are made by the Ministry under the authority of the Financial Administration Act, Section 25. Accounts receivable includes $12 (2001 $ nil) from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Note 12 Defined Benefit Plans
(in thousands)

The Ministry participates in the multiemployer pension plans, Management Employees Pension Plan and Public Service Pension Plan. The Ministry also participates in the multiemployer Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers. The expense for these pension plans is equivalent to the annual contributions of $7,202 for the year ended March 31, 2002 (2001 $5,473).

At December 31, 2001, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a surplus of $5,338 (2000 $170,858) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a surplus of $320,487 (2000 $635,084). At December 31, 2001, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had a deficiency of $399 (2000, surplus $180).

The Ministry participates in the Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Pension Plan. The expenses for this pension plan are $5,065 for the year ended March 31, 2002 (2001 $2,893).

The Ministry also participates in two multiemployer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2002, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported an actuarial deficiency of $8,646 (2001 $12,710) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan an actuarial deficiency of $2,656 (2001 $4,583). The expense for these two plans is limited to employer's annual contributions for the year.

Note 13 Prior Years Adjustment – Maintenance Enforcement Program
(in thousands)

The adjustment to net assets for years prior to 2001 amounting to $1,452 represents estimated amounts paid to the Crown from the Maintenance Enforcement program since 1986 which should have been paid to either a creditor or refunded to a debtor. The amount of the adjustment has been included as an increase to accounts payable and accrued liabilities in 2002 and 2001. The estimated amount could change as a result of further file review. Any adjustment to the estimate will be recorded in 2002-03 fiscal year.

Note 14 Comparative Figures

Certain 2001 figures have been reclassified to conform to the 2002 presentation.

Note 15 Approval of Financial Statement

The financial statements were approved by the Senior Financial Officer and the Deputy Minister of Justice.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Revenues
Year Ended March 31, 2002

Schedule 1

(in thousands)

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2001 Actual
Transfers from the Government of Canada			
Legal Aid	$ 6,750	$ 7,910	6,630
Other	1,408	1,403	1,324
	8,158	9,313	7,954
Investment Income - Bank Interest	325	340	438
Fees, Permits and Licences			
Court Fees	13,100	13,242	14,060
Motor Vehicles Accident Claims (MVAC)	13,100	14,390	13,927
Public Trustee Fees	3,512	3,735	4,385
Other	449	503	478
	30,161	31,870	32,850
Other Revenue			
Fines	23,015	23,691	20,458
Maintenance Enforcement Act	7,760	7,297	7,680
Fines - Late Payment Penalty	8,500	10,258	8,831
MVAC Recoveries	2,775	3,049	3,348
Refunds of Expenditure	15	68	17,156
Miscellaneous	632	1,653	1,828
	42,697	46,016	59,301
	$ 81,341	$ 87,539	$ 100,543

Ministry of Justice Schedule 2
Schedule to Financial Statements
Expenses - Directly Incurred Detailed by Object
Year Ended March 31, 2002

(in thousands)

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2001 Actual
Voted:			
Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits (a)	$ 126,929	$ 133,402	$ 137,046
Supplies and Services (a)	36,801	38,381	38,173
Grants	27,795	28,344	23,075
Financial Transactions and Other	74	80	63
Amortization of Capital Assets	730	686	881
Total Voted Expenses	$ 192,329	$ 200,893	$ 199,238
Statutory:			
Other	$ 27,587	$ 24,297	$ 22,415

(a) Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits and Supplies and Services expenses for Strategic Services programs are shared with the Ministry of the Solicitor General, which contributes its own share of expenses. Only the Ministry of Justice's portion are disclosed in this schedule.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2002

Schedule 3

(in thousands)

	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget
Revenues:			
Transfers from Govt of Canada	$ 8,158	$ -	$ 8,158
Investment Income	325	-	325
Fees, Permits and Licences	30,161	-	30,161
Other Revenues	42,697	-	42,697
	81,341	-	81,341
Expenses - Directly Incurred:			
Voted:			
Ministry Support Services	12,546	69	12,615
Court Services	84,027	4,038	88,065
Legal Services	56,640	5,975	62,615
Support for Legal Aid	27,242	-	27,242
Public Trustee	7,433	263	7,696
Medical Examiner	4,441	173	4,614
	192,329	10,518	202,847
Statutory:			
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Valuation Adjustments:	27,587	-	27,587
Provision for Doubtful Accounts	200	-	200
Provision for Vacation Pay	173	-	173
	27,960	-	27,960
Total Expenses	220,289	10,518	230,807
Net Operating Results	$ (138,948)	$ (10,518)	$ (149,466)
Capital Investment	$ 1,330	$ -	$ 1,330

(a) Supplementary Estimates were approved on November 29, 2001 and March 14, 2002.

Ministry of Justice Schedule 4

Schedule to Financial Statements

Comparison of Expenses - Directly Incurred and Capital Investments by Element to Authorized Budget

Year Ended March 31, 2002

MINISTRY SUMMARY

(in thousands)

Program	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
VOTED EXPENSES:					
1 Ministry Support Services	$ 12,546	$ 69	$ 12,615	$ 11,402	$ 1,213
2 Court Services	84,027	4,038	88,065	89,128	(1,063)
3 Legal Services	57,840	5,975	63,815	62,871	944
4 Support for Legal Aid	27,242	-	27,242	27,242	-
5 Public Trustee	7,433	263	7,696	7,651	45
6 Medical Examiner	4,571	173	4,744	4,603	141
Total Voted Expenses	$ 193,659	$ 10,518	$ 204,177	$ 202,897	$ 1,280
Program Operating Expense	$ 192,329	$ 10,518	$ 202,847	$ 200,893	$ 1,954
Program Capital Investment	1,330	-	1,330	2,004	(674)
Total Voted Expenses	$ 193,659	$ 10,518	$ 204,177	$ 202,897	$ 1,280
STATUTORY EXPENSES:					
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 27,587	$ -	$ 27,587	$ 24,297	$ 3,290
Valuation Adjustments	373	-	373	(2,054)	2,427
Total Statutory Expenses	$ 27,960	$ -	$ 27,960	$ 22,243	$ 5,717
Total Voted and Statutory Expenses	$ 221,619	$ 10,518	$ 232,137	$ 225,140	$ 6,997

(a) Supplementary Estimates were approved on November 29, 2001 and March 14, 2002.

(b) Includes achievement bonus amounting to $1,208.

PROGRAM 1 - MINISTRY SUPPORT SERVICES

(in thousands)

VOTED EXPENSES

Program	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
1.0.1 Minister's Office	$ 383	$ -	$ 383	$ 431	$ (48)
1.0.2 Deputy Minister's Office	460	-	460	460	-
1.0.3 Communications	340	-	340	247	93
1.0.4 Strategic Services					
Operating Expense	5,605	69	5,674	5,714	(40)
Capital Investment	-	-	-	14	(14)
1.0.5 Management Information Services	5,193	-	5,193	3,945	1,248
1.0.6 Amortization of Capital Assets	470	-	470	507	(37)
1.0.7 Standing Policy Committee on Justice and Government Services	95	-	95	84	11
TOTAL PROGRAM	$ 12,546	$ 69	$ 12,615	$ 11,402	$ 1,213

PROGRAM 2 - COURT SERVICES
(in thousands)

VOTED EXPENSES

	Program	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary	(a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
2.1	**Program Support**						
2.1.1	Program Support Services	$ 5,320	$ 123	$	5,443	$ 6,978	$ (1,535)
2.1.2	Chief Provincial Judge's Office	1,582	59		1,641	2,242	(601)
2.1.3	Law Libraries	3,903	28		3,931	4,426	(495)
	Total Sub-program	10,805	210		11,015	13,646	(2,631)
2.2	**Calgary Court Operations**						
2.2.1	Calgary Court of Queen's Bench	5,889	287		6,176	6,193	(17)
2.2.2	Calgary Provincial Court	15,509	1,033		16,542	15,977	565
2.2.3	Calgary Family Mediation Services	738	9		747	557	190
2.2.4	Calgary Operational Support	2,636	34		2,670	2,864	(194)
	Total Sub-program	24,772	1,363		26,135	25,591	544
2.3	**Edmonton Court Operations**						
2.3.1	Edmonton Court of Queens Bench	6,255	278		6,533	6,463	70
2.3.2	Edmonton Provincial Court	13,981	1,240		15,221	14,170	1,051
2.3.3	Edmonton Family Mediation Services	1,079	19		1,098	918	180
2.3.4	Edmonton Operational Support	2,666	36		2,702	3,164	(462)
	Total Sub-program	23,981	1,573		25,554	24,715	839
2.4	**Regional Court Operations**						
2.4.1	Lethbridge Courts	3,014	130		3,144	3,230	(86)
2.4.2	Red Deer Courts	2,852	119		2,971	3,043	(72)
2.4.3	Grande Prairie Courts	1,255	51		1,306	1,329	(23)
2.4.4	Peace River Courts	900	35		935	864	71
2.4.5	Wetaskiwin Courts	950	28		978	997	(19)
2.4.6	Fort McMurray Courts	681	22		703	734	(31)
2.4.7	St Paul Courts	1,408	54		1,462	1,499	(37)
2.4.8	Drumheller Courts	551	19		570	602	(32)
2.4.9	Medicine Hat Courts	1,238	41		1,279	1,309	(30)
2.4.10	Regional Provincial Courts	6,663	260		6,923	6,876	47
2.4.11	Regional Family Mediation Services	1,016	8		1,024	384	640
2.4.12	Regional Operational Support	976	14		990	1,210	(220)
	Total Sub-program	21,504	781		22,285	22,077	208

PROGRAM 2 - COURT SERVICES CONTINUED
(in thousands)

VOTED EXPENSES

	Program	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
2.5	**Court of Appeal**					
2.5.1	Court of Appeal	2,965	111	3,076	3,099	(23)
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 84,027	$ 4,038	$ 88,065	$ 89,128	$ (1,063)

PROGRAM 3 - LEGAL SERVICES
(in thousands)

VOTED EXPENSES

Reference	Element	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
3.0.1	Law Reform	$ 320	$ -	$ 320	$ 320	$ -
3.0.2	Legislative Counsel	1,391	101	1,492	1,488	4
3.0.3	Civil Law	17,335	1,655	18,990	18,381	609
3.0.4	Criminal Justice	27,404	4,108	31,512	30,919	593
3.0.5	Maintenance Enforcement					
	Operating Expense	8,775	111	8,886	8,432	454
	Capital Investment	1,200	-	1,200	1,919	(719)
3.0.6	Child-Centred Family Justice	1,408	-	1,408	1,405	3
3.0.7	Amortization of Capital Assets	7	-	7	7	-
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 57,840	$ 5,975	$ 63,815	$ 62,871	$ 943

PROGRAM 4 - SUPPORT FOR LEGAL AID
(in thousands)

VOTED EXPENSES

Reference	Element	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
4.0.1	Legal Aid Plan	$ 27,242	$ -	$ 27,242	$ 27,242	$ -

PROGRAM 5 - PUBLIC TRUSTEE
(in thousands)

VOTED EXPENSES

Reference	Element	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
5.0.1	Public Trustee	$ 7,433	$ 263	$ 7,696	$ 7,651	$ 45

PROGRAM 6 - MEDICAL EXAMINER
(in thousands)

VOTED EXPENSES

Reference	Element	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary (a)	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense (b)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
6.0.1	Medical Examiner					
	- Operating Expense	$ 4,188	$ 173	$ 4,361	$ 4,360	$ 1
	- Capital Investment	130	-	130	71	59
6.0.2	Amortization of Capital Assets	253	-	253	172	81
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 4,571	$ 173	$ 4,744	$ 4,603	$ 141

STATUTORY PROGRAMS

(in thousands)

Appropriation not voted by the Legislative Assembly
pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act

STATUTORY EXPENSES

	2001-2002 Estimates	Authorized Supplementary	2001-2002 Authorized Budget	2001-2002 Actual Expense	Unexpended (Over Expended)
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 27,587	$ -	27,587	24,297	$ 3,290

Ministry of Justice Schedule 5
Schedule to Financial Statements
Salary and Benefits Disclosure
Year Ended March 31, 2002

	2002			2001
	Salary(1)	Benefits and Allowances(2)	Total	Total
Deputy Minister(3) (4) (5)	$ 143,201	$ 44,819	$ 188,020	$ 230,688
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services	126,184	31,492	157,676	151,307
Assistant Deputy Minister, Court Services	125,033	45,439	170,472	153,508
Assistant Deputy Minister, Criminal Justice (5)	138,701	21,139	159,840	178,412
Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Services(6)	125,033	29,126	154,159	152,617
Executive Director, Human Resources(6)	107,749	20,536	128,285	131,455

Total salary and benefits relating to a position are disclosed.

(1) Salary includes regular base pay, bonuses, overtime and lump sum payments.

(2) Benefits and allowances include the government's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short and long term disability plans, WCB premiums, professional memberships and tuition fees.

(3) Automobile provided, no dollar amount included in benefits and allowances figures.

(4) Benefits and allowances include a vacation payout of $16,786 and car allowance of $2,000.

(5) The position was occupied by two individuals through the year.

(6) The incumbents' services are shared with the Ministry of the Solicitor General, which contributes its own share of the cost of salary and benefits. Full salary and benefits are disclosed in this schedule.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Related Party Transactions
Year Ended March 31, 2002
(in thousands)

Schedule 6

Related parties are those entities consolidated or accounted for on a modified equity basis in the Province of Alberta's financial statements. Related parties also include management in the Ministry.

The Ministry and its employees paid or collected certain taxes and fees set by regulation for permits, licenses and other charges. These amounts were incurred in the normal course of business, reflect charges applicable to all users, and have been excluded from this Schedule.

The Ministry had the following transactions with related parties recorded on the Statement of Operations at the amount of consideration agreed upon between the related parties:

	Other Entities	
	2002	2001
Expenses:		
Alberta Corporate Services Centre	$ 7,473	$ 101
Information Technology	495	4,930
Postage	196	458
Vehicles (EVO/CVO)	13	7
Parking	7	5
Air Transportation	-	17
	$ 8,184	$ 5,518
Capital Assets Transferred	$ 22	$ -

The Ministry also had the following transactions with related parties for which no consideration was exchanged. The amounts for these related party transactions are estimated based on the costs incurred by the service provider to provide the service. These amounts are not recorded in the financial statements and are disclosed in Schedule 7.

	Other Entities		Entities in the Ministry	
	2002	2001	2002	2001
Revenues:				
Legal Services	$14,829	$11,492	$3,909	$4,050
	$14,829	$11,492	$3,909	$4,050
Expenses:				
Accommodation	$28,841	$29,624	$ -	$ -
Legal Services	-	-	3,909	4,050
	$28,841	$29,624	$ 3,909	$ 4,050

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Allocated Costs
Year Ended March 31, 2002

Schedule 7

(in thousands)

	2002						2001
		Expenses - Incurred by Others		Valuation Adjustments			
Program	Expenses[1]	Accommodation Costs	Legal Services (2)	Vacation Pay	Doubtful Accounts	Total Expenses	Total Expenses
Voted:							
Ministry Support Services	$ 11,388	$ 618	$ 1,787	$ 89	$ -	$ 13,882	$ 13,159
Court Services	89,128	23,900	192	(567)	(1,271)	111,382	130,286
Legal Services	60,952	2,487	(3,102)	(237)	-	60,100	52,798
Support for Legal Aid	27,242	14	32	-	-	27,288	22,620
Public Trustee	7,651	719	21	(42)	-	8,349	8,398
Medical Examiner	4,532	745	115	(60)	-	5,332	5,111
	200,893	28,483	(955)	(817)	(1,271)	226,333	232,372
Statutory:							
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	24,297	358	955	10	24	25,644	24,008
	$ 225,190	$ 28,841	-	$ (807)	$ (1,247)	$ 251,977	$ 256,380

(1) Expenses as per Statement of Operations, excluding valuation adjustments.

(2) Expenses for Legal Services are internally allocated.

OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Following Information is Unaudited

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002

Other Financial Information

For the Year Ended March 31, 2002

Statement of Remissions, Compromises and Write-offs 79
Fine Activities 80
Violation Ticket Activity 81
Fine Collection Cost Estimates 83

Other Financial Information

Statement of Remissions, Compromises and Write-offs for the Year Ended March 31, 2002

The following statement of compromises and write-offs has been prepared pursuant to Section 23 of the Financial Administration Act. The statement includes all compromises and write-offs of the Ministry of Justice made or approved during the fiscal year.

	$ (000)
Remissions:	$ --
Compromises:	
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 116
Maintenance Enforcement Program	19
	$ 135
Write-offs:	
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$32,796
Fines	628
Late Payment Penalties	476
Abandoned and Seized Vehicles	206
Maintenance Enforcement Program	124
	$34,230
Total Remissions, Compromises and Write-offs	$34,365

Fine Activities

Federal and Provincial Statute Offences and Municipal Bylaw Offences

In October 2001 a series of management information reports were implemented to provide selective summary data on fine activities in the province. Two complete fiscal years of this information, for comparative purposes, will not be available until March 2004. The municipalities receive specific provincial statute offence fines and all municipal bylaw fines for offences occurring within municipal boundaries. The Alberta government receives fines for provincial statute offences occurring on primary highways and other specific provincial statute offences. The Alberta government receives any late payment penalties on overdue fines and fines under the Criminal Code of Canada. The Victims of Crime Fund, administered by the Alberta Solicitor General, receives a 15% surcharge on all provincial statute fines and a surcharge on selective federal statute offences. These surcharge revenues are used to fund victims programs in Alberta. The federal government receives fines for federal statute offences other than the Criminal Code.

The tables below summarize fines imposed, fine payments and uncollectible fines for the six months from October 2001 to March 2002 by the recipient level of government. A table also summarizes outstanding fines at March 31, 2002 by the recipient level of government.

Fines Imposed - October 2001 to March 2002

	Number of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	543,034	39.5%	$ 38,991,708	58.5%
Alberta Government	298,989	21.8%	19,522,155	29.3%
Victims of Crime Fund	531,182	38.7%	7,106,942	10.7%
Federal Government	734	0.1%	1,052,887	1.6%
Total	1,373,939	100.0%	$ 66,673,692	100.0%

Fine Payments - October 2001 to March 2002

	Number of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	526,014	39.7%	$ 33,976,466	62.1%
Alberta Government	290,066	21.9%	14,408,008	26.3%
Victims of Crime Fund	509,275	38.4%	5,690,163	10.4%
Federal Government	746	0.1%	663,484	1.2%
Total	1,326,101	100.0%	$ 54,738,121	100.0%

Uncollectible Fines - October 2001 to March 2002

	Number of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	11,158	45.4%	$ 1,184,658	68.4%
Alberta Government	12,308	50.1%	502,269	29.0%
Victims of Crime Fund	1,084	4.4%	46,028	2.7%
Federal Government	3	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	24,553	100.0%	$ 1,732,955	100.0%

Outstanding Fines - at March 31, 2002

	Number of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	417,135	41.7%	$ 49,198,406	51.0%
Alberta Government	546,647	54.7%	42,541,627	44.1%
Victims of Crime Fund	34,711	3.5%	1,932,474	2.0%
Federal Government	1,724	0.2%	2,713,296	2.8%
Total	1,000,217	100.0%	$ 96,385,803	100.0%

Violation Ticket Activity

One of the reports implemented in October 2001 summarizes violation ticket activity by province of the vehicle driver/owner receiving a ticket in Alberta. Similar to fine activities, two complete fiscal years of this information, for comparative purposes, will not be available until March 2004. A significant portion of Provincial Court resources is directed towards the handling and processing of all violation tickets for provincial statute offences issued in Alberta. The values summarized in the tables are inclusive of the fine and the provincial fine surcharge.

The tables below summarize violation tickets fines imposed, fine payments and uncollectible fines for the six months from October 2001 to March 2002 by province of offender. A table also summarizes outstanding fines at March 31, 2002.

Violation Ticket Fines Imposed - October 2001 to March 2002

	Number of Ticket Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Ticket Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Value
Alberta	578,988	96.8%	$ 48,805,288	95.8%
British Columbia	7,852	1.3%	902,334	1.8%
Saskatchewan	5,420	0.9%	580,957	1.1%
All Other	6,101	1.0%	668,403	1.3%
Total	598,361	100.0%	$ 50,956,982	100.0%

Violation Tickets Paid - October 2001 to March 2002

	Number of Tickets Paid	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Tickets Paid	Percent of Total Value
Alberta	570,091	97.8%	$ 46,919,070	97.3%
British Columbia	4,520	0.8%	474,412	1.0%
Saskatchewan	4,118	0.7%	408,252	0.8%
All Other	4,310	0.7%	427,372	0.9%
Total	583,039	100.0%	$ 48,229,106	100.0%

Uncollectible Fines - October 2001 to March 2002

	Number of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Value
Alberta	12,064	96.9%	$ 1,418,885	93.0%
British Columbia	98	0.8%	50,040	3.3%
Saskatchewan	38	0.3%	15,183	1.0%
All Other	247	2.0%	41,537	2.7%
Total	12,447	100.0%	$ 1,525,645	100.0%

Outstanding Fines - at March 31, 2002

	Number of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Value
Alberta	447,249	93.6%	$ 61,806,621	92.5%
British Columbia	14,993	3.1%	2,374,210	3.6%
Saskatchewan	6,710	1.4%	1,060,975	1.6%
All Other	8,888	1.9%	1,572,961	2.4%
Total	477,840	100.0%	$ 66,814,767	100.0%

Fine Collection Cost Estimates

Estimated Cost of Collecting a Provincial Statute Fine – 2000-2001

A costing methodology to estimate the cost of collecting a Provincial statute fine in Alberta for 2000-2001 was developed in relation to the 1.3 million violation tickets received by all Court offices in the Province. The major cost components for Court Services are the Calgary and Edmonton Provincial Traffic Courts, ticket processing costs in the Regional Provincial Courts and the cost of violation ticket printing. Criminal Justice costs include paralegal prosecutors and first appearance centres in Calgary and Edmonton. Strategic Services costs are for the operation and maintenance of the Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) system applicable to violation tickets and for postage and handling of the Notice of Conviction mail-outs.

The table below summarizes the provincial statute and municipal bylaw fine payments received and the cost for violation tickets received by all Courts.

Total Provincial Statute and Municipal Bylaw Payments Received		
Provincial Acts - Fine and Surcharge		$ 78,739,072
Municipal Bylaw		5,622,238
Late Payment Penalty		8,389,198
Total Violation Ticket Payments	A	$ 92,750,508
Cost for Violation Tickets Received by All Courts		
Court Services and Criminal Justice		$ 8,089,315
Strategic Services		2,306,666
Total Estimated Cost	B	$ 10,395,981
Cost per Dollar Collected (B/A)		$ 0.11

Estimated Cost of Collecting a Federal Statute Fine – 2000-2001

A costing methodology to estimate the cost of collecting a Federal statute (Criminal Code and Other) fine in Alberta for 2000-2001 was developed in relation to approximately 47,600 Fine Orders. The major cost components for Court Services are the salary and benefit costs of Court staff and Provincial Court judges with associated supplies and services costs. Criminal Justice costs are primarily the salary and benefit costs of the Crown Prosecutors. Strategic Services costs are for the operation and maintenance of the JOIN system applicable to criminal case tracking. Strategic Services also pay for the salary and other operating costs for the Fines Collection Unit who collect Criminal Code fines on behalf of all Courts in the Province.

The table below summarizes the federal statute fine payments received and the cost for all Fine Orders prepared by all Courts.

Total Federal Statute Payments Received		
Federal Acts - Fine and Surcharge	A	$ 10,218,319
Cost for Fine Orders by All Courts		
Court Services and Criminal Justice		$ 12,140,293
Strategic Services		644,371
Total Estimated Cost	B	$ 12,784,664
Cost per Dollar Collected (B/A)		$ 1.25

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ENTITIES' FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IN MINISTRY 2001-02 ANNUAL REPORTS

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Agriculture Financial Services Corporation	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission	Health and Wellness
Alberta Dairy Control Board	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board	Energy
Alberta Foundation for the Arts	Community Development
Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission	Gaming
Alberta Government Telephones Commission, The	Finance
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Endowment Fund	Revenue
Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund	Revenue
Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund	Revenue
Alberta Heritage Science and Engineering Research Endowment Fund	Revenue
Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, The	Community Development
Alberta Insurance Council	Finance
Alberta Municipal Financing Corporation	Finance
Alberta Opportunity Company	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Alberta Pensions Administration Corporation	Finance
Alberta Petroleum Marketing Commission	Energy
Alberta Research Council Inc.	Innovation and Science
Alberta Risk Management Fund	Revenue
Alberta School Foundation Fund	Learning
Alberta Science and Research Authority	Innovation and Science
Alberta Securities Commission	Revenue
Alberta Social Housing Corporation	Seniors
Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation	Community Development
Alberta Treasury Branches	Finance
ATB Investment Services Inc.	Finance
Child and Family Services Authorities:	
Awasak Child and Family Services Authority	
Calgary Rocky View Child and Family Services Authority	
Child and Family Services Authority Region 13	
Child and Family Services Authority Region 14	
Diamond Willow Child and Family Services Authority	
Hearthstone Child and Family Services Authority	
Keystone Child and Family Services Authority	
Ma' Mowe Capital Region Child and Family Services Authority	
Metis Settlements Child and Family Services Authority	
Neegan Awas'sak Child and Family Services Authority	
Ribstone Child and Family Services Authority	
Sakaigun Asky Child and Family Services Authority	
Sakaw-Askiy Child and Family Services Authority	
Silver Birch Child and Family Services Authority	
Southeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Sun Country Child and Family Services Authority	
West Yellowhead Child and Family Services Authority	
Windsong Child and Family Services Authority	Children's Services

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY (cont'd)

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation	Finance
Crop Reinsurance Fund of Alberta	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Department of Children's Services	Children's Services
Department of Community Development	Community Development
Department of Energy	Energy
Department of Finance	Finance
Department of Gaming	Gaming
Department of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness
Department of Innovation and Science	Innovation and Science
Department of Learning	Learning
Department of Revenue	Revenue
Department of Seniors	Seniors
Department of Solicitor General	Solicitor General
Department of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development
Environmental Protection and Enhancement Fund	Sustainable Resource Development
Gainers Inc.	Finance
Government House Foundation, The	Community Development
Historic Resources Fund	Community Development
Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Education Fund	Community Development
iCore Inc.	Innovation and Science
Lottery Fund	Gaming
Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Ministry of Children's Services	Children's Services
Ministry of Community Development	Community Development
Ministry of Economic Development	Economic Development
Ministry of Energy	Energy
Ministry of Environment	Environment
Ministry of Finance	Finance
Ministry of Executive Council	Executive Council
Ministry of Gaming	Gaming
Ministry of Government Services	Government Services
Ministry of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness
Ministry of Human Resources and Employment	Human Resources and Employment
Ministry of Infrastructure	Infrastructure
Ministry of Innovation and Science	Innovation and Science
Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations	International and Intergovernmental Relations
Ministry of Justice	Justice
Ministry of Learning	Learning
Ministry of Municipal Affairs	Municipal Affairs
Ministry of Revenue	Revenue
Ministry of Seniors	Seniors
Ministry of Solicitor General	Solicitor General
Ministry of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development
Ministry of Transportation	Transportation
N.A. Properties (1994) Ltd.	Finance
Natural Resources Conservation Board	Sustainable Resource Development

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY (cont'd)

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Community Boards	
Calgary Community Board	Community Development
Central Community Board	Community Development
Edmonton Community Board	Community Development
Northeast Community Board	Community Development
Northwest Community Board	Community Development
South Community Board	Community Development
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Foundations[2]	Community Development
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Michener Centre Facility Board	Community Development
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Provincial Board	Community Development
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Reserve Fund	Finance
S C Financial Ltd.	Finance
Supplementary Retirement Plan Reserve Fund	Finance
Victims of Crime Fund	Solicitor General
Wild Rose Foundation, The	Community Development

ENTITIES NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Alberta Cancer Board	Health and Wellness
Alberta Foundation for Health Research	Innovation and Science
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research	Innovation and Science
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Reseach	Innovation and Science
Alberta Mental Health Board	Health and Wellness
Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund Board	Learning
Improvement Districts' Trust Account	Municipal Affairs
Local Authorities Pension Plan	Finance
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan -Bargaining Unit	Human Resources and Employment
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan -Management, Opted Out and Excluded	Human Resources and Employment
Management Employees Pension Plan	Finance
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Pension Plan	Finance
Public Post Secondary Institutions	Learning
Public Service Management (Closed Membership) Pension Plan	Finance
Public Service Pension Plan	Finance
Regional Health Authorities	Health and Wellness
School Boards	Learning
Special Areas Trust Account, The	Municipal Affairs
Special Forces Pension Plan	Finance
Supplementary Retirement Plan for Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers	Finance
Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers	Finance
Universities Academic Pension Plan	Finance
Workers' Compensation Board	Human Resources and Employment

[1] Ministry includes only the department so separate department financial statements are not necessary.

[2] Dissolved June 2001